真・天地無用！魎皇鬼外伝

天地無用！GXP 12

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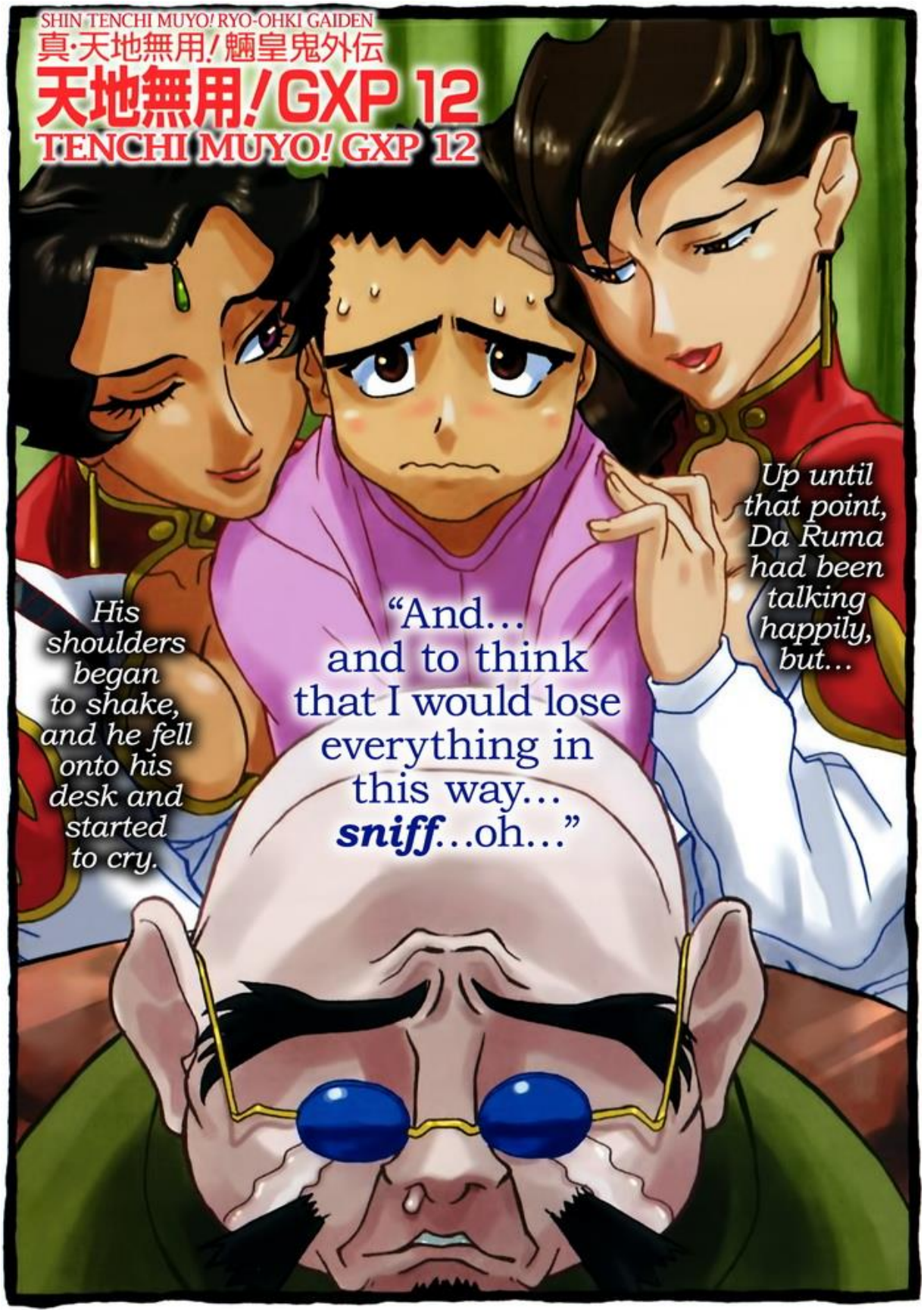
ファンタジア文庫


SHIN TENCHI MUYO! RYO-OHKI GAIDEN
真·天地無用! 魎皇鬼外伝
天地無用! GXP 12
TENCHI MUYO! GXP 12
Up until that point, Da Ruma had been talking happily, but...
"And... and to think that I would lose everything in this way... sniff...oh..."
His shoulders began to shake, and he fell onto his desk and started to cry.

Surprisingly, Kiriko and the others were not able to reply instantly.
Normally, they just had to say that they were part of his ship's crew, but they froze for a second.
"All of you, what is your relationship with Seina?"
"!?"

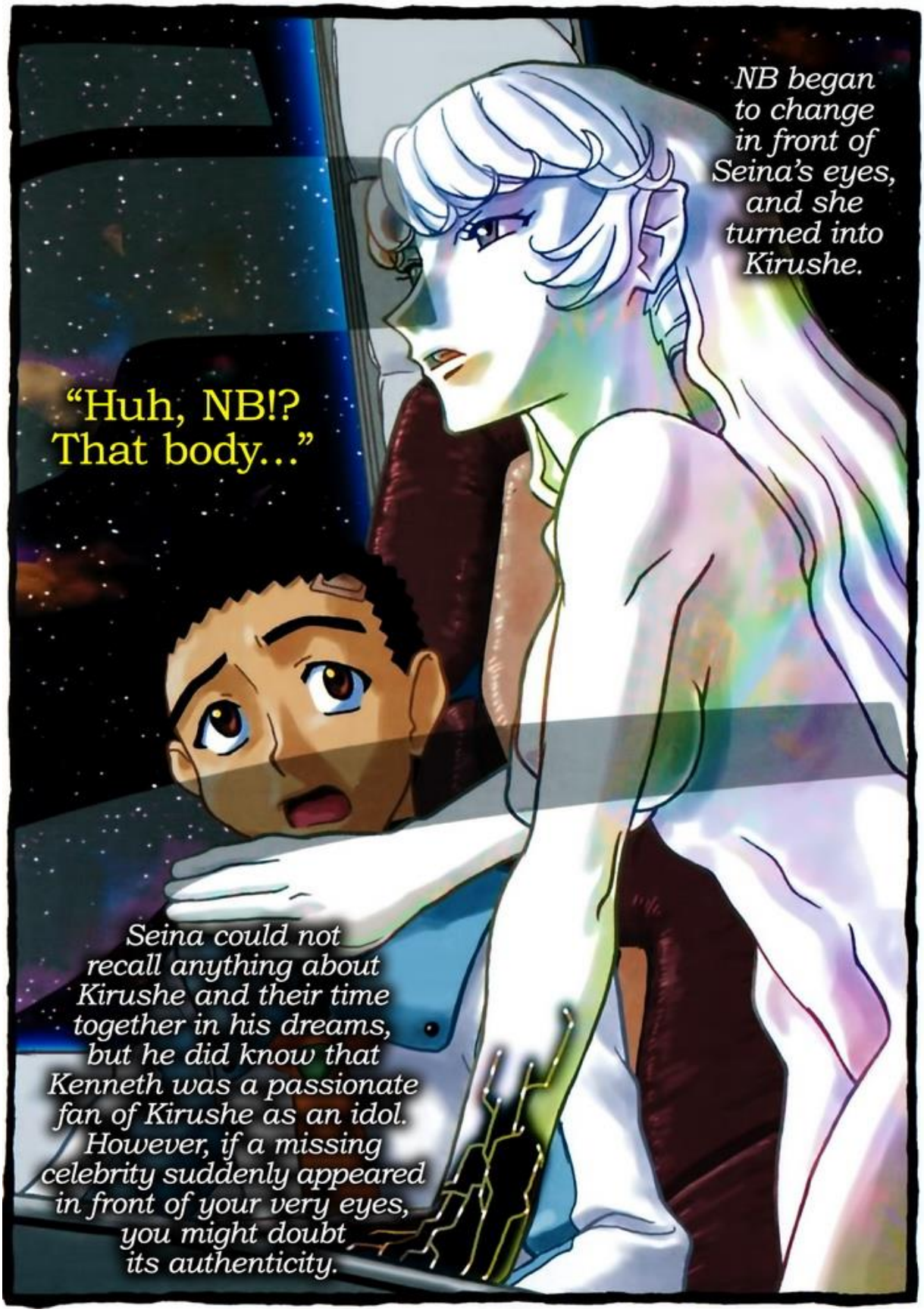

NB began to change in front of Seina's eyes, and she turned into Kirushe.
"Huh, NB!? That body..."
Seina could not recall anything about Kirushe and their time together in his dreams, but he did know that Kenneth was a passionate fan of Kirushe as an idol. However, if a missing celebrity suddenly appeared in front of your very eyes, you might doubt its authenticity.

Table of Contents

Chapter One: That Man's Landscape **7**

Chapter Two: Mizuki **10**

Chapter Three: The End of an Era **19**

Chapter Four: Stray Calling **33**

Chapter Five: Conspiracy and Plot **44**

Chapter Six: Hiroshi's Old Days **61**

Chapter Seven: Kanemitsu's Rampage **74**

Chapter Eight: Battle: Seina vs Seiryo **88**

Chapter Nine: Every Day is Just the Calm Before the Storm **107**

Afterword: Concluding Theater 9 **125**

Illustrations

Cover: Kirche, Seina, and Maya	**Cover**
Pinup 1: Seina and Da Ruma	**2**
Pinup 2: The Girls being questioned	**3**
Pinup 3: Seina and Kirche	**4**
Minaho, Airi and Mitoto	**23**
Makihi and Washu	**34**
Seto holding Fuku in a hot tub	**45**
Pinup 1: Seina and Da Ruma	**47**
Seina and Maya	**56**
Miki, Hiroshi and Raireza	**72**
Luretta and Alan	**84**
Caliche, Rajau, Kenneth, and Miranda	**95**
Pinup 2: The Girls being Questioned	**97**
Seina and his Doctor	**108**
Washu	**120**
Pinup 3 - Seina and Kirche	**121**

Chapter One: That Man's Landscape

“You are a strange man,” the old man's guard said in amazement.

“If I do this, your people will reimburse me for the damage as soon as I'm done right? If you knew how valuable this was, your eyes would probably jump out of your skull, are you sure they will be able to replace it?”

“You shouldn't say such stupid things! If you don't like our offer then perhaps you'd like to stay here for the full hundred years?” the guard said, he was amazed with the smug face that the old man responded with.

“But I want to stay here the full term, I think of it as a sort of fundraiser... ha ha! And that's not a joke.”

“... ... You’re going to be in here 100 years at the very least ... Well certainly for a normal person that's like a year, but you’re so old it's practically all you have left old man. And you want to spend it in this place? Don't you think that's a total waste?”

“Uhuhuhuhu. That may be true for ordinary people, but this is not a bad environment for thinking.”

“So, you'd rather rot in here than have to pay to the bill to repair that stupid vase?”

“It's a matter of principle... ... Uhg… ... Damn that stupid girl!” The man was desperately trying to restore a piece of pottery that had been broken into pieces.

“... ... Is our chat disturbing you?”

“Oh, by no means. I can work on up to twenty things at once if I feel like it, our silly little chat is in no way a distraction for me.”

“If you know you’re going to be compensated, why don't you just throw it away?”

“Do you know how much trouble it took for me to get this?! And you want me to just throw it away?”

“Really? ... I don't know much about antiques... ... is that pot a rare one?”

“It was made with a level of craftsmanship that was impossible for any ordinary man.” The man said as he thought of the appearance of the pottery before it had been damaged. “Its shape, luster and touch ... ... were all perfect.”

“But it's impossible to restore it to perfection with that level of shattering, and you expect to do it without any tools?”

Prisons had to have fields that prevented people from pulling out equipment stored in subspace. Otherwise, even the most secure prison would be easily escapable.

“Who do you think I am?! I can restore it even without tools.”

“That's quite a big undertaking.”

The old man was arrogant and extremely prideful, but he enjoyed conversations with the guard.

“Anyways, I heard that for the last two hundred years before you got here, there were only rumors about what you were up to, what were you doing? And how did you end up here?”

“I often wonder what I was doing...” The old man was silent and had on a serious expression which was rare.

“What's wrong, don't you remember?”

“... No, it's nothing. Well, there are so many things I do, it's hard to keep track when you’re a busy body like me.” The man responded and quickly restarted his repair work.

“Okay ... ... But why did they give you such a long sentence, I don't see how you can be so nonchalant about it ...” The guard had a bit of a sad look on his face because he knew he would be retired from his job long before the old man was released. He kept an eye on the pottery that the man was restoring.

The old man was enthusiastically searching for the position of each piece, but he was a tremendously long ways away from being done. It was like he was building a pure white jigsaw puzzle made of tens of thousands of pieces.

“Well at least you have something to keep you occupied.” His sentence was over a hundred years. It would probably be completed by the end of it.

”I don't want to spend all my time on it, but I don't plan on rushing.”

“Hey, your sentence has more than a hundred years on it right?”

“You never know Shaba, there are always people who have a need for a person like me, uhuhuhuhu!” The old man said with glaring eyes. His eyes were youthful and energetic. One would not have been able to tell that he had lived over ten times longer than the guard.

“After all, isn't that the essence of a philosophy?” The desire to acquire knowledge and to desire to have things never ended. Someone would always need a philosopher.

Chapter Two: Mizuki

Airi and Mikami arrived back in Airi's office at the Academy very tired.

They were tired from being chewed out at a meeting of the leaders of the Galactic Federation where everyone was briefed on the impact of the good luck fleet. They had been propped up as scapegoats.

The Secretary General of the Academy soon interrupted their rest to report that there had been massive losses to the fleet since they left for the meeting. Soon Airi's office was flooded with damage reports.

As Airi complained about the amount of work being placed on her, one of her employees called to tell her something, but hesitated when he noticed what a bad mood she was in.

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Seina came out through the transfer gate on a large dock. The blue sky was visible above and there was the compact Kamidake anchored in the huge space.

“Is it really ok to store it in such a large space?”

“Even if it's small, it's a ship with power equal to that of a Royal ship plus a second-generation ship.”

“You can't forget that it has Kiriko's ship Mizuki with it.”

“Yeah, but it's just the core.”

“Well, without an exterior, you can't distinguish it from any other ship ... Isn't that all the more reason to keep it stored in the same bay?”

Amane gazed at it and no matter how much she looked at it she could find no change in its shape. “You'd think there would be some kind of customization. It's not like they don't have the money.”

“We don't need to. An owner can tell their ship without any exterior differences.”

“Really!?” Amane looked at Seto.

“Of course, of course and the design is a symbol of Jurai, so no one is even allowed to change it.”

“... Well, it certainly is obviously Juraian at a glance, so its design is kind of like a national flag then?”

“Well, kind of, it's mostly so that without an exterior it isn't immediately obvious whose ship it is.”

Royal ships must apply in advance for navigation clearance and have their location confirmed. But then there's a limit to its behavior. So, it is also done so that they can have a degree of covert camouflage.

“... ... I see, that makes sense,” Amane said.

“Luckily, it’s also easy to hide the ships because they're stored in such small units.”

“So how did you manage to get clearance to fuse it with the Kamidake?”

“Ehem, well, ... we got confidential permission so we could take down the good luck ships. While Kiriko is a royal family member now, it still hasn't been made public knowledge. The ship still doesn't exist publicly. So please treat it as such.”

× × ×

“Hey Kiriko, have you finished adjusting the unit?”

“Oh, yes ... Although the residential unit is still under construction, the workers have been working hard at it and the bridge is completed.”

“Okay, then, would you show us around the bridge?”

“Wow! Is it really OK for us to see that?” The girls said aloud as if surprised.

“Why are you so surprised?”

“Well, I wonder ... ...” Amane and Ryoko faced each other in a way that seemed strange to Seina.

“The residential area of a royal ship, and the bridge where the trees are located are top secret.”

“Oh well, it's fine for anyone to know as long as you have permission from the tree.” Seto said like it was nothing.

“Is it really that simple!?”

“How are you doing, Mizuki?”

“She wants to play... ... That's what she says.” Kiriko said, looking at her ring key which has a cabochon cut amber embedded in it.

“Well, let's go then!”

However, unlike the others Amane approached Kiriko with reserve, “Uh ... ... I'll stay here and provide support if you don't mind Kiriko-sama...”

“No, I insist that you come with us...”

Amane’s face turned red.

“It's alright, you don't have to act any different than usual around me, nothing has changed, and you can just call me Kiriko.”

“Oh, I see ... Well then I guess I'm fine to go when you are Kiriko.”

“Alright, let's go then. Mizuki-chan, please proceed.” Kiriko spoke to the key. A ring-shaped light was generated from the key, and the space around them distorted. They were transferred to Mizuki's bridge.

“Eh!?” There was no discomforting feeling that was usually felt when transferring.

The scenery around them had just switched in an instant. It took a while for their senses to realize they were in a different place now, an area with a refreshing breeze and the smell of sweet fruit.

“Did we just transfer?”

“Yes, it's much smoother than an ordinary transfer, the Kamidake also seems like it should be able to do the same once Fuku-chan grows up.” Kiriko told Amane, who was a little puzzled.

“Welcome, this is Mizuki's bridge!” Kiriko bowed to greet them like they were customers.

“This is a bridge? It's almost like a garden ...”

“I could never imagine that this is a ship's bridge ... ... This is the best kept secret of Jurai, isn't it?”

Amane and the others looked around curiously. It seemed that Ryoko, who was a former Space Pirate, was particularly impressed. Mizuki's unit was in better shape than it was last night, in particular the receiving terminal for the neural lights was decorated with old trees. Besides that, various decorations had been laid out in a nice way.

“It's different from Seto's Mikagami, isn't it?” As expected, Hakuren and her crew were calm because they were used to it.

“Well ... Although the appearance of the unit is a standard, the interior is customized according to the size and shape of the tree and to the tastes of the contractors, but this time we had to rush things and Mizuki-chan is still very young, so I'll be making improvements to it little by little.”

“... ... So, in the middle... Is that your Royal Tree?” Amane looked the place where the young tree Mizuki was sitting.

“Since it's called a Royal Tree, I imagined it was huge, I expected to have to look up ....”

“This young tree is of the second generation ... ... like Mikagami, she is the core of a ship that is said to be the strongest of the universe ...”

“Yeah, but haven't they been beaten before?”

“To be honest, yes, I'm afraid that's true.'“

“Mizuki-chan please say hello.”

Mizuki emitted a nerve light, which was amplified through the terminal, covering the entire bridge.

—— Hello! Hello.

“Mia!” Fuku, who was held in Seina's arms, suddenly slipped out of his grip and began jumping around Mizuki. She noticed that Mizuki was one of the Trees who greeted her when she returned to Jurai.

—— Fuku! Fuku!

“Miao! Mya!”

“Oh good, this is going to work just fine.” Seto looked relieved as she saw Fuku happily jumping around Mizuki.

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Seina, who had finished greeting Mizuki, went to the residential district. He sat on the rock like terrace which was made of the roots of the giant tree in the middle, he was breathing as if had been intensely exercising.

“Ah, that tickled, it was like being licked by a hoard of puppies.”

“It sure seemed happy to see us.”

“A tree with a will of its own ... ... It's quite different from what you imagined isn't it.” Ryoko said. Indeed, before she had seen it as a God of Death and Destruction from her time as a Space Pirate and now it seemed like a ‘puppy’. Her mental image of it flipped 180-degrees.

“Isn't it cute?”

“Isn't it, but is Seto's like that?”

“Well ... ... Their personalities vary, but the other trees have a similar feeling to them.”

“The area around my back is still tickling.” The girls were hardly able to keep from falling over laughing.

Amane took a deep breath to stop the tickling sensation before looking around at the scenery. “... Even though I'm somewhat used to it on the Kamidake ... It feels strange seeing such a large subspace in a ship.”

Fixing such a huge subspace was a luxurious and inefficient waste of energy for most ships. It was unnecessary to have such a large space on a personal ship, and it would be cheaper to just connect a physical residential unit to a ship.

“This residential district is relatively small though.”

“Even so, it's about 8 kilometers wide and 5 kilometers high ... For an individual's private quarters, it’s far too big, but compared to Seto-sama and Azusa's it's nothing. Although it's just a basic layout, there are units included that produce clothes, give medical care and necessities for daily life are also provided, so thousands of people here can live on their own self-sufficiently. Actually, you could in theory attach even more subspaces, many people have about thirty or so on their second generation ships and use them for growing resources using time acceleration. It's not unreasonable to say that you could house an entire planets worth of people here and run this place like an independent nation if you wanted to.”

“That's a ridiculous amount of power for a ship to have, no matter how you look at it.”

“No one has tried to see what the actual limits are, so 30 is not even the upper limit. It's just a waste to have that many for individual use. Even those who make a hobby out of making these subspaces, really only end up using about 5 of them in practice. A royal ship itself can be used like a nation of its own and as for defense, it generates an unreasonable amount of energy. It actually doesn't have to be armed because the exterior of the ship is actually a limiter.”

“A limiter?”

“The ship’s offensive power is too high, no matter how we suppress it, it still has the power to blow up a planet in one shot, even with a limiter.”

“... ... So, in theory, you could rule the entire Federation with only one ship?”

“That would be possible in theory, but the ships don't like fighting.”

“Oh, hehehe ... Well, that kind of makes sense.” Amane felt the tickles from earlier as she remembered Mizuki.

“They're just like Fuku-chan,” Neiju stroked Fuku.

“Do you like being dizzy and dazzling?”

“The smell of nature ... ... The beautiful clean air ... I can't believe this is all in a spaceship .... It certainly feels unnatural to do battle with such a ship.”

For those who have always lived in space, this environment was heaven. There was no need to worry about clothing, shelter, or living space. There was no need to fight to get food for living.

“So... Ms. Seto... how much would it be to have one of these units made for me?” Amane asked.

“Oh? Are you interested?”

“I'm just doing a bit of window shopping. It's not like I don't have the money.”

“Well, a basic unit can make more assets than the entirety of Tenju produces... Is that what you're after? Well sorry, but they aren't for sale. Besides causing various inconveniences, it would be impossible to fix such an area in subspace without something generating enough power.”

“Ha ha ha! Of course, that's why I'd decided fix it to Kiriko's ship.”

“Amane-san ... that's truly genius...” It was a wonderful idea.

“It is a good idea, I could recreate my palace... ... I wouldn't fix it to Kiriko's ship but what about the Kamidake?” Neiju chimed in. Everyone hopped on the idea.

“Oh! I want a big outdoor bath and pool!”

“Why stop there? You can fix entire planets and even a small solar system if you want.”

“A few planets ... ... That's crazy, ahahahaha!” Amane was dizzy with excitement.

“How about you?”

“Well ... ...” Hakuren, who was asked by Seto, was a little puzzled because she still considered herself to be one of Seto's officers.

“If everyone else is getting one, wouldn't you want something?”

“Well, you see...”

“Hakuren you're also a part of the Kamidake's crew, don't be so modest.”

“Well, I guess you're right ... ...” Hakuren's heart shook.

“Huh ...?” Seto noticed that Seina was looking around as if he were looking for something. “What's wrong with you?”

“Oh, no ... ... I just noticed that Kiriko isn't here anymore ...”

Fuku jumped away from Seina's chest.

“Oh, Fuku!? Hey, where are you going?” Seto smiled as Fuku and Seina ran off to a transfer gate. Amane and the others were so excited thinking about units that no one noticed.

× × ×

“A weed ... ...? Where did the seeds come from?” Kiriko was squatting, as she tried to pull out a weed that grew next to Mizuki.

—— Please don't do that.

“Eh?”

—— Don't bother it, it's my friend.

“... Are you sure?” There were various meanings to what it said. It wouldn't be a strain on Mizuki's growth and of course, because its life span was much shorter than Mizuki's, it would die soon.

—— Yeah.

“Okay, so are you also friends with Fuku-chan?” Kiriko softly sat down in the vicinity.

—— I like Fuku a lot.

Mizuki shined nerve lights here and there. It was a fun gesture.

“Hehe, I see that's good.”

“Myaang!” Suddenly Fuku ran in from the behind Kiriko.

“Fuku-chan!? ... You surprised me!”

“Mia!”

“Did you finish the tour? Is anyone with you Fuku-chan?”

—— Seina is headed here.

Kiriko looked around.

“Fuku where are you?” Seina called as he transferred in.

× × ×

“Oh hey! Where are Seina and Kiriko?” Amane and the others finally realized that they weren't there.

“They must have left while we were talking!”

“Chhh ... Why do I feel like we've been caught in another mosquito net? Yesterday it was Ringo and today it's Kiriko.” Seto looked away. In other words, it was like Seto had started the conversation in order to give them time alone.

“You shouldn't complain so much, besides they will be fine together if you don't have an eye on them. Plus, if you shoot down the good luck fleet, I can maybe see about getting you a fourth or fifth generation ship for a reward. Think about it, then you can fix two units or maybe even three.”

“Woah, are you serious?”

“I'll also throw in a special vacation.”

“Roger that!” Everyone was happy and pleased with Seto's suggestion of a reward.

× × ×

“Mia! Mya mamiaa.” Fuku was entertained as she played with Mizuki. She ran around the tree like she was playing a game of tag as the nerve light chased her. However, even though she was focused on playing, Fuku avoided the weed that Mizuki said was her friend.

Seina and Kiriko were sitting side by side, looking at the cabbit and the tree silently.

“Mia!” Fuku hid behind Seina.

“That's cheating.” Seina caught Fuku and handed her over to Mizuki.

—— Aha! I got you!

“Miah! ... ... Miau.” Mizuki's nerve light shined on Fuku.

“Mizuki chan won!” Mizuki's nerve light moved from Fuku to Seina's forehead.

—— Hey, Seina ... ... is there anything you want to talk about?

“Ah!!”

Mizuki's question startled both Kiriko and Seina who were avoiding talking about something.

“Mi, Mizuki-chan!”

—— Kiriko seems like she has something she wants to say too.

Mizuki's remark was childishly naive and stepped on the landmines exquisitely. Seina and Kiriko turned red ear to eat.

“... ... uhm! Actually, about yesterday... ... ...” Seina decided to start talking about the incident he had yesterday.

“It’s alright ...”

There was no reason to be angry after knowing the detailed circumstances, and it wasn't what she had imagined. However, as soon as she heard it from Seina she felt fine. If he has said nothing, she might have remained suspicious.

—— Fuku. Fuku.

“Miah, Mia!” Kiriko calmed her mind as she watched the two playing joyfully.

“Sorry to make you worry.”

“Thanks, but it's Yuzaki-sama's fault.” Despite being embarrassing, the matter of concern was settled. Kiriko's heart felt sluggish.

Fuku was once again captured by Mizuki's nerve light.

“They've became friends, I suppose that's good.”

“Well, yes ... but I'm a bit disappointed that she doesn't have a terminal form like Ryo-Ohki.”

“Maybe we should ask Washu to make her a moving terminal form like Honoka or Kyoko.”

“Sounds good… …”

Seina looked closely at Kiriko and breathed heavily as he decided. “... ... Kiriko ... ... that kimono, you look nice in it,” he said.

“Oh ... oh ... Thank you, it's not like you to notice a woman’s outfit ... ... I'm a little surprised.” Kiriko was touched, but she returned the comment with small talk because the tension was resolved.

“... ... Kiriko, remember the suit you were wearing when you left my village to go find work.”

“Oh!” Kiriko remembered Seina's expression when she first showed up like that. His facial expression of when he was still a junior high school student, overlapped with the expression of Seina currently had on.

“Oh… …”

The face was happy, but the eyes were like a puppy being abandoned. He understood the reason for her leaving back then, she had ran away to overcome her feelings towards his luck. Now being a royal family member for Kiriko was an act of trying to approach Seina in rank. But for Seina it seemed like Kiriko had gone far away from him once again.

Seina was always within her reach. If she wanted to reach him, she could have at any time – – Kiriko knew that.

“... I'll always be here for you.” Kiriko gently moved her hand to hold Seina's hand.

“.....”

They both sat without saying anything as they locked eyes. The warmth of their hands superimposed on each other was enough. They knew the truth of the existence of each other from the feel alone.

“There they are.” A voice put an end to the precious time shared between the two.

“Seto-sama!” Seina and Kiriko quickly let go of each other’s hands and got up.

“Everything seems ready. Let's get started right away.”

“OK!”

To be honest though he regretted having to end that moment between the two of them. When he saluted, he took Fuku and ran away.

Chapter Three: The End of an Era

Everyone moved to the bridge of Kamidake and began preparations. Everyone except Seto and Kiriko were seated and working on an operation. Fuku was in a fixed position in the center.

“The Kamidake has confirmed the position of the Mizuki unit! Both of their mental states are stable.”

In the Juraian dock the Kamidake and Mizuki were arranged side by side.

“Arrangement completed, all green!”

“Everything is ready.” Minaho reported on the other side of the monitor and everyone's eyes turned towards Seto.

“Synchronization start!”

“Mya!”

“Mizuki-chan we're starting, please calm down.” Kiriko spoke to Mizuki.

The crystal on Fuku's forehead began to pulse with the rhythm of Neurofluence began on Mizuki's Bridge.

* * * **Translators’ note: I have no idea what Neurofluence means, that's just how it translates out. * * ***

“We're getting data now!” Fuku and Mizuki’s Personal Data was displayed on a pair of rectangular monitors on the bridge.

“Hey ... ... what, is this a joke!?” A number of abnormalities were displayed with tremendous speed, those who understood their meaning were staring, transfixed.

“Amazing ... It's the first time I’ve seen such personalized data broken up to this extent, it only goes to prove that the Kamidake and Imperial Trees are advanced living organisms ...”

“It seems their compatibility is also quite good.” The small monitors were packed side by side on the bridge, and then they finally finished their display.

“A Spatial distortion has occurred in the crystal plate! Distortion rate is rising!”

“The Mizuki unit has started moving!”

A hole opened in the Kamidake's plate-like crystal, it gradually expanded, and the Mizuki unit began to be pulled in.

“The Mizuki unit has merged, there are no abnormalities.”

—— gloonk __! A loud sound was made, and a strip-shaped pair of monitors started linking.

—— Goonk! gloonk! gloonk! gloonk! Daddadada dada!

The conjoining accelerated quickly.

“Synchronization has begun. Stabilizing mental waveforms ... ...! Amplitude is increasing!”

“Energy spill is increasing!”

From the Mizuki unit, nerve lights were released like crazy towards the Kamidake. The monitors began to make intense movements.

“Myan! Miaumamau Mew!!”

“Fuku is also breathing heavily. Her pulse rate is rising.”

“Energy vibrations have increased, there's distortion in space!” The energy pressure released from the Kamidake and the Mizuki unit and shook the huge dock.

“What's going on???” Minaho screamed.

And then, —— Vee! Vee! An emergency earthquake bulletin was issued along with the sound.

“Wow!? ... ..., the entirety of Tenju is shaking!”

“Oh no, this is serious ... ...” Seto looked up to the sky.

An accurate earthquake forecast was possible in this age. It could predict almost exactly when an earthquake would happen over the next tens of thousands of years. However, the earthquake shaking Tenju was an unexpected and sudden thing which couldn't have been predicted by anyone. The people of Tenju were surely surprised.

“The limit value is exceeded! Please hold on to something!”

“Cancel the fusion ... ...”

“Please wait!” Kiriko interrupted Seto. “Mizuki! Fuku-chan! Calm down!!” Kiriko's shouting voice stopped the shaking.

“……Oh?” Everyone looked confused.

“Jeeze... ... the two of them nearly broke the dock!” Kiriko let out a big sigh.

“... ... Seto-sama, both ships have stabilized.”

“Whew ... ... I forgot that they're both children” Seto said with wry smile.

“I'm sorry ... I should have known.”

“In other words, that was just from the two of them going a bit crazy with playful energy at being united? That's what caused the tremor?” Amane looked at Fuku with a shaky face.

“Miau ... ...”

“Fuku ... ... it's alright. Kiriko isn't angry anymore.” Seina lifted Fuku and stroked her to calm her down.

—— Sorry ....

“Please stay calm, you can play together when you're finished.” Kiriko gently smiled at Mizuki's voice.

—— Ok.

“Are both of you OK?” Seina and Kiriko nodded to Seto's question.

“OK, then let's resume.” Seto signaled, the link was smoothly restarted without the previous troubles this time.

“Everything's going well.” The monitors concluded consolidation and disappeared one after another.

“The Mizuki unit has entered the sub space of the Kamidake.”

“There are no fluctuations or distortions, it's stable.”

“Mizuki unit storage completed, a connected network with the Kamidake is being configured.” A pattern like a vine appeared on the crystal plate of the Kamidake.

“Distortion detection rate of all systems is .000012, it's stable and in an advanced state.”

“This goes far beyond the forecasted figures calculated from data with the Mikagami ... ... amazing.” Seto sighed and in a few seconds all monitors disappeared. It was over.

“Synchronization errors not detected! Systems all green, no abnormalities can be seen at all.”

“Fyew!” Seina and Kiriko breathed out at the same time.

“Fuku, Mizuki-chan, thank you for your cooperation, are there any abnormalities?”

“From here we can hardly detect any output fluctuations. Things seems to be ... ... much smoother than with the Mikagami.”

“Because they're children, they are able to get along well quickly, if Fuku-chan and Mizuki-chan grow up well together ... Maybe they will even be able to surpass a first-generation ship.”

“Is it ok to build such a powerful ship?”

“It's fine, they’re both good girls.” Since the masters were Seina and Kiriko, there was no reason to expect that power to be used irresponsibly. However.....

“We still have one issue to take care of... how do we respond to complaints and inquiries coming from various parts of the world.”

“.....” Seto remembered the earthquake and became silent. Mizuki hadn't been announced yet, neither had the fusing experiment with the Kamidake. It was a confidential matter which only the Supreme Council knew about. Moreover, it would cause a fuss if it was known that such a dangerous experiment was conducted at Tenju, which was a symbol of Jurai and could also be said to be the mother tree. There was no excuse for that but thinking of how much had to be explained made Seto feel depressed.

“... ... uhm... let’s wait a bit ... ...”

Everyone stared Seto as if they wanted her to hurry.

“Fine, fine, I'll handle it now. Prepare to leave for the test flight.”

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The bridge of the Kamidake was busy preparing to set sail.

“Sorry I'm late!” Kiriko took a seat.

“Kiriko-san, your outfit ... ...” Kiriko was in her normal uniform, but it seemed strange because she was still done up like she was when she was in her formal outfit.

“... ... What, why are you all looking at me?”

“Why did you change?”

“Well, we might encounter a battle, I can't move easily wearing that outfit.”

The crew giggled.

“Well, then... let’s proceed with the final checks!”

“Roger that!”

× × ×

“Fire control systems all green!”

“There are no problems with the navigation system.”

“Check synchronization with manual control!”

“There are no problems from No. 1 to No. 10! There's a 12% rise in reaction link speed.”

“Oh wow! That's amazing, is it possible to move in real time even under those accelerated conditions?”

“Thanks to Mizuki and Fuku-chan taking over different roles it shouldn't be a problem ...”

“But our opponent is a lucky ship, we should be on our guard.”

The check items of the Kamidake turned green one after another. Finally, all checks were completed.

“Mia!” Fuku meowed loudly, signaling the end of the tests.

“Systems are all green, Captain!”

“OK, load the schedule of the test route.”

“The loading of the schedule is completed; necessary items are all green.”

Minaho came on the screen, “Sorry Seina, Seto is still taking some time to do some things, so ... ...”

“Ms. Airi!” Mikami had wry smile as Airi, who was half crying, was being stroked by Mitoto behind Minaho on the monitor.

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“Damn it, I'm really getting tired of everyone lately.” Airi, accompanied by Minaho came to the bridge of Kamidake, she seemed like she had been scolded like a child.

“Yay!” Mitoto picked up a broom but wasn't doing anything with it. She stoked Airi's head happily.

“I'm sorry Seina, I know it may be a bit of a nuisance, but will you let us accompany you on the Kamidake's test flight?” Minaho put her hands together and begged.

“I don't mind ... but why?”

“I'm still a philosopher you know, I'm just here to observe. Don't worry, I'll remain unobtrusive in a corner of the bridge. So please, just ignore me,” Airi said.

“... Ms. Mitoto, why are you here?”

“I discovered her cleaning under the Imperial Palace a while ago ... ... she needs to go back to the GP anyway, please take her.”

“I see...”

“And Mikami also decided to come to keep her in check.”

“I'm more than happy to have her, I don't mind.”

“I'm happy. Thank you Seina...” She hugged Seina.

“Mi... Minaho!” The girls said.

“Anyways we have a little time before our departure. Hakuren and the others are off taking a short break, but they’ll be back soon. I suggest you all rest up too for now.” Minaho took herself off of Seina before Kiriko and the others removed her forcibly.

“Roger that!”

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“Well, we got everything together,” Seto said.

“Ho ho. Seto, you look like you could use a little rest.”

“I couldn't blame anyone for being exhausted after that, but luckily the hard part is out of the way. I'll just have to ignore how tired I am and hope we depart quickly.”

“Oh... Seto are you going with us?” Amane asked.

“Naturally!” Seto said with her arms folded.

“Wow, I never thought we'd be going on a ship together like this. Ahahah.” Airi said happily in a loud voice.

“Oh, you can leave if you want, I just needed Mikami, you don't need to be here,” Seto said smiling.

“No thanks... The mountain of documents piled up at my office is disgusting, ah ah ah ah.”

“.....” Everyone was ignoring Airi, they were absorbed in work.

“Sorry I'm late.” Yuzaki and Ringo arrived on the bridge.

“Ms. Yuzaki, Ringo ... ... and Mikage, why are you here!?”

“We might encounter a lucky ship, so I figured we should increase your luck a little.”

“But why bring Mikage-sama, isn't it too dangerous for her?”

“A battleship is like a cradle for a Juraian baby.”

“Well... ok. If you say so ... ...”

If you thought about it, it was useless to say anything to a stubborn mother who had already committed her child to Seina. But because both Seto and Minaho were affirming her decision, it seemed like common sense.

“Come on, what are we waiting for ... oh?” Seto barked until she noticed Mitoto holding Seina and Fuku tightly. After Airi stopped crying, Mitoto, who hadn't been present, began stroking Seina's hair.

“Mitoto, are you going to release Seina and Fuku-chan soon?”

“Well maybe, will you give me a broom?” Mitoto looked at Seto like she was holding a grudge.

“Uhm...” But if she returned the broom, there was no telling where Mitoto would end up. On the other hand, Seina had to set the Kamidake's route, and Fuku had to take control of the ship.

“Oh!” Seto looked around for alternatives and picked up Mikage from Yuzaki and presented her before Mitoto.

“Ms. Mitoto, can you please hold this child?”

“Oh my!”

Despite being separated from her mother, Mikage gazed at Mitoto interestingly.

“Oh wow, how cute ♡.”

Like Seto's thought, Mitoto took her hands off of Seina and Fuku and hugged Mikage.

“Oh wow, is this your child? What's her name?”

“Her name is Mikage” Yuzaki and Seto moved in front of Seina and Fuku to hide them from Mitoto and sent a signal behind them to get the show on the road.

“Ok, let's get to work.”

“Miau ... ...”

“Mikage, oh wow!”

Seina quickly sat down in the captain's seat. “Ok let's take off.”

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The Kamidake escaped from the gravity well of Jurai and did a several short distance jumps before it came outside of the Juraian solar system.

“We have access to the GP and Seniwan data banks now.”

“Academy and Galactic Federation Headquarters, access completed!”

“Juraian access to the Supreme Council Databank has been authenticated.”

Mikami, Airi, and Minaho each accessed the databases.

“Extraction of the latest data considered necessary is completed!”

“Transfer it to the Mikagami and predict the lucky ship's route! Show the numerical value for each probability.”

Although the data sent to Mikagami was a huge amount, responses were displayed in a matter of minutes.

“The total number of candidates is about 10,000 ... ... I could narrow it down.” Seto stared at the data.

“Let's choose from just a little over 60% of candidates. Seina, please choose.”

“Huh, Seto-sama ... This is still a test mission, so if possible, shouldn't we try to avoid sudden lucky ship encounters ...” Minaho said, everyone except Seto sent an agreeing look.

“... Fine, let's narrow it down to about 10%.” Truly Seto seemed to have reconsidered by looking at the faces of Fuku and Mikage.

“Seina, please choose.”

“OK.” A relieved Seina looked at the displayed data. As expected, there was a considerable number of things with low probability, Seina chose one of them immediately. “Route setting completed. Upper hyperspace jump loading started.”

“Let's make tea before we jump in.” The Kamidake began to prepare to jump, and they started a mini picnic.

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The mountain of tea and confections spreading throughout The Kamidake's bridge made it look like a girl’s playroom. Seina, the only man, had an uncomfortable feeling about it.

“It's five minutes before we jump out. Everyone please standby in your respective positions.” Seina breathed a sigh of relief at Kiriko's words.

They all quickly threw away the remaining tea and sweets and got into place.

“After jumping out, we need to check every direction in space! If a target is not found, we'll make the next jump immediately.”

“We've arrived, please prepare for the shock of the jump out.”

“Jump out in ten seconds... ... ... Five, four, three, two ... ... jump out!” After a light impact, the Kamidake exited out into normal space.

“Omnidirectional check engage... ...!” Right as Kiriko said that an alarm sounded in the bridge.

“Enormous energy reaction! Directly in front of us!? ... ... Is that.... EHHH?” Everyone was staring at the monitor with open mouths and hearts pounding.

“... ... ... Uhuhuhu! Ahah ... ... Ahahaha, ke ke ke ke ke ke ke ha ha ha. Oh hohohoho aha ha!” Seto's laughter filled the bridge. “Ahahaahahahaha ... ... this certainly is a route that I hadn't predicted but I knew since it was picked by Seina there was a reasonable expectation for this to happen ... ... I invested several years of the Juraian national budget trying to find this, I can’t help but laugh. I can't believe we've found this.”

“Wow, check the ship and make sure!” Kiriko immediately started working despite Seto's laughter.

“I checked, there's only one similar candidate ... ...” Kiriko was puzzled and looked back to Hakuren's team who were providing support. Kiriko double checked what they sent her again. What Kiriko was looking at was video data taken by Jurai's information ship, Netsuke, dispatched as a training ship when Seina went for a training mission.

“Hey, hey, Ryoko ... ... is that ... ...” Still not convinced, Kiriko looked at Ryoko and saw the look in her eyes.

“... ... It is, a ha ha ha... ...” Ryoko breathed deeply to calm herself as she looked at the planetary scale ship displayed before her eyes.

“There is no mistaking it. That's the center of the Da Ruma Guild, the moving planet fortress, the Big Da Ruma.” Ryoko's affirmation finally revealed the name of the ship in front of them, they almost all cried at the same time.

Da Ruma, who was sleeping in the master suite room of Racepshi, was woken by one of his aide women and briefed on the matter.

“What?! The Kamidake has appeared!” Da Ruma jumped out of the bed and launched the monitor to call the Deputy President of the Big Da Ruma.

“What on earth was defensive surveillance doing!?”

“I'm sorry. They just arrived by Jumping from a long distance, close by and very suddenly, like they knew our location ...” The Vice president said with a somber expression.

“Do you think that Racepshi sold us out?”

“No, that is not what I'm saying ... ... But it is possible that it is a factor as to how we were discovered.”

At that time the door was knocked in and the general manager of Racepshi, Ekushito, came in.

“Oh, general manager, what is the meaning of this?”

“A warning was sent from the Kamidake saying “Please leave the battle airspace immediately!” At that point those who remain in Racepshi will be acknowledged as taking asylum, but all other vessels will be arrested or destroyed.”

“You seem to be acting quite like someone who was prepared for this.” Over the monitor, the Deputy President glared at Ekushito.

“You think we sold you out?”

“How else do you explain this timing?”

“Oh, stop it! If Racepshi was in the business of selling out its customers, it would have been out of business ages ago. There's a reason they were given the right to free navigation, and we have a long history. I will not have you take this any further.”

“I appreciate your trust.” Ekushito thanked him deeply. “So, that being said, we would like to guarantee the security of the customers. But would you at least consider becoming a shield for us to escape?”

“We cannot let anything happen to Racepshi; we refuse to expose this ship to any danger.”

“What? But that's against the customer policy...”

“Which is to protect customers who are aboard the Racepshi.” Ekushito said with a solid expression.

“You bastard!”

“Alright, stop!” Da Ruma scoffed over his vicious Vice President.

“Lorelai Seina has come to us ... ... Let's view this situation another way. Here's the brave people of our Guild's ultimate battleground, this is fate. We will bury the Kamidake with our combined strength!”

“We'll guarantee the time for the crew members to return to their ships.”

“I'll ask them to return immediately.” Da Ruma said. Ekushito quickly left the room as soon as he bowed.

“Alright! Please tell all Guild members who are gathered here! We will destroy Lorelai Seina, we'll crush our enemy, down with the Kamidake!”

“Hahah!” The Vice President deeply bowed to Da Ruma.

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Like Da Ruma, the Kamidake's crew was still a bit confused.

“The Big Da Ruma has engaged a powerful jamming signal! Communication has become impossible.”

“Hakuren, prior to the jamming, you send notice to the GP and Jurai?” Kiriko asked.

“Notice of the situation has been sent.” Kiriko was relieved.

Although it was a problem that communication was blocked, they had plenty of experience on how to deal with that thanks to the situation with the first Kamidake.

“Were receiving a laser communication, from Racepshi!”

“Long time no see, Ms. Seto.” In the confusion, Makihi gracefully appeared on the monitor. At her appearance, the bridge which had been frightened became suddenly quiet.

“Oh, Makihi, so what's your response?”

“Racepshi has prepared for the move. However, we are conducting business at the moment, so I would like to have some time.”

“Well ... fine, let's wait an hour, but if at any time the Big Da Ruma shows signs of making a jump, even if Racepshi is there we will start our attack.”

“Thank you, Ms. Seto.” Makihi bowed and then slowly raised her face and glanced at the bridge crew.

“You're the Captain of the Kamidake, Seina Yamada, aren't you?”

“Me? Yes, I am!”

“I'm Ms. Makihi of Racepshi. I've heard highly of your name for such a long time now ... ... it's truly regrettable this is our first encounter. If there is a next opportunity, then by all means, we'll be gladly waiting to have you as a customer.” Makihi said to Seina, and then she threw a kiss with lustful eyes and cut off communication. The surrounding women began to get riled up all at once.

“... ... Hey ... ...what the matter with everyone?” It seemed to normal business talk to Seina. But he could feel everyone being upset.

“Captain, do you know that person?”

“No ... that's the first time I've seen her ... ...” Seina answered, the women gathered together at the corner of the bridge all together and started talking.

“What do you think, Gyokuren?”

“Those are the eyes of a woman who without a doubt wants to hook herself to Seina.”

“But why?”

“Because the family of Racepshi is keen on cultivating a competent next generation, and they’re interested in making talented children. Makihi has ten children, as far as I know, but only two were with her official husband, the other children have different fathers.” Seto informed them. The ladies stood together all at once.

“Okay, then why our Captain ... do they want Seina's ability?”

“His biased probability? Isn't that too dangerous... ...”

“Perhaps they want it for the mental strength that comes with it?”

“But aren't the negatives too big?”

“I mean that's not necessarily a bad thing.” Seto said looking around the women in the circle and smiling wryly.

“What do you mean, Lady Seto?”

“Whether it’s unfortunate or not, it would help to build dramatic flair. Seina's bias and unhappiness are spices that will raise drama and ... well, the sex appeal of an actor.”

“Seto-sama! The Racepshi has started moving.” Seina called, the women returned to their spots.

“I'm a bit worried, we're about to take on a major battle but we've had no test fights...” Kiriko said looking at Mitoto and Mikage.

“I'm not worried.” Yuzaki smiled.

“How about you Ms. Mitoto?”

“I'm not worried about it either.”

“We've already come this far! And we're riding the best masterpiece Washu invented, the sister ship of Ryo-Ohki, who fought equal fight against Jurai... the other side should be worried.”

The pirate ships began to formulate a strategy as they launched from the Big Da Ruma.

“If we can cripple them, then the Da Ruma Guild will be destroyed!” Seto couldn't hold back her joy. “I'm hungry, the fleet will take a while to get deployed, so let's have a light meal and take a break for now!”

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“Listen! Brave warriors! Now before our eyes, the Kamidake rides against us with Lorelai Seina inside it ... now is our chance to kill that bastard and crush the Kamidake! Let's make the Da Ruma Guild name known throughout the galaxy!”

The Space Pirates who were listening to the speech from Da Ruma cheered. But mostly because they were all still a bit drunk from the party on Racepshi.

“We confirmed the link with all the ships! Attack posture is set!”

“Awesome ..... Great! Behold the battlefield of our great fleet!”

“Tell them we’re ready! Tell the Racepshi they can go! When they get out of the combat zone, we'll begin the battle!”

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“Racepshi, shows no sign of jumping.”

“Well, it's a big event, they probably want to stay for the show,” Airi said.

“They're going to show this fight!?”

“Wow ... ... are they going to be ok?”

“What about us, when is back up coming?” Seto watched Hakuren, sending a sign to Kiriko to sit with her palm.

“I sent a signal to Jurai so they should be aware of the situation, but they won't be here for quite a while because of the scale of the situation ... ...”

Even with the super hyperspace navigation of the royal ships, it would take considerably time to arrive. In other words, this battle was between an entire fleet and one ship, the Kamidake.

“We'll be fine, clean-up is just going to be a hassle.” Seto said, sure of victory, losing wasn't even a possibility to her. “Ho ho ho, indeed, and that big fleet is going to require a lot of on-site investigation.”

Post-processing such as investigation and transportation required a lot of manual labor.

“Racepshi will leave the combat airspace soon!”

“High energy reaction from the Da Ruma fleet!”

In terms of position, Da Ruma was moving to give Racepshi’s customers a better view. But the readings only gave Seto more confidence.

“Uhuhuhuh..... I'll show you the real power of Kamidake and a second-generation Royal Tree! Let's get them Fuku chan!”

“Hey!”

“Um ..... Seto-sama .....? What about our captain ... ...?” Kiriko pointed to Seina.

“Seina ... ... Can you please let me command the offense?”

“... But... but... ... OK, fine... I leave it to you.” Seina said after checking silently if it was ok with Airi and Mikami.

“Thank you!”

“Seto-sama! Racepshi is outside of the battle zone!”

“Alright!! Let's get this party started!” Seto fanned out her favorite fan as she began her attack on the Big Da Ruma.

Chapter Four: Stray Calling

“The Big Da Ruma is battling the Kamidake!” Seiryo yelled as he came out of the toilet with his pants down.

“I know! Pull up your pants for God’s sake!” Komachi yelled. Seiryo rushed back in the toilet.

“What are you doing!?”

“I haven't wiped my ass yet.”

“Ugh! Hurry up!”

“I know!” Seiryo quickly dressed and ran towards the bridge.

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“We must rescue the Big Da Ruma at once!” Seiryo ran onto the bridge.

“Captain, I'm afraid that's impossible. We don't know where they are. And communications to the Da Ruma are blocked.” Barry said.

“Then how did we get a report about it!?”

“A spy in the GP sir.”

“THAT COWARD SEINA YAMADA! HE'S TOO AFRAID TO FIGHT COMMANDER DA RUMA ONE ON ONE! WHEN I FIND HIM...”

”Excuse me... sister...” Maya said to Komachi in a loud voice trying to talk over Seiryo.

“... .... AND THEN I'LL...” Seiryo kept going on.

“Hey sis... if The Da Ruma and the Kamidake are fighting, then the Racepshi should have gotten out of the way and shut down to let everyone watch the fight. You might be able to find their location based on the things the people aboard it are putting online.” Maya said confidently.

“That's a good thought.” Komachi agreed.

“And then POW!” Seiryo punched the console with his fist.

“I know what I'll do! This is a lucky ship! We'll use luck to guess their co-ordinates!” Seiryo said, ignoring them.

“OK! Coordinate setting slots ready!” Barry said. The operators pulled on the slots all at once.

Kachin! Kachin! Kachin!

Numbers were displayed, one after another and became co-ordinates for their jump.

“Hyperspace jump program loaded!”

“JUST YOU WAIT SEINA! I'LL STOP YOU!”

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As expected by Maya, Racepshi stopped all its services to watch the spectacle of the fight. After all, this large-scale battle was the greatest battle since the last Great War, so there was no one on board who complained about it, not even the performers whose shows had been canceled.

Makihi stood alone, naked, in an uninhabited hall. The battle of the Da Ruma and the Kamidake was displayed on the big screen in front of her, the energy from battle and the heavy quakes from battleships exploding were converted into sounds and flowed around her at loud volumes. Makihi closed her eyes and spread out her arms to bask in it.

“Well, that's one way to enjoy it, I guess.” Washu said watching from behind her.

“When I do this, I can feel all of the battle. I can even feel what the inhabitants inside the ships are thinking and feeling ...”

“Hmm ... ... am I disturbing your view?”

“Oh, no, not at all. Please don't mind me.”

”Hmm then I guess I'll stay...” Washu stared at the Kamidake as it darted around the battlefield. “It's maneuvering wonderfully as expected ... it's moving quicker than Ryo-Ohki ever has.”

“Yes, it's wonderful. There are so many opponents, they'll figure out its evasion patters soon enough though.” As Makihi said, the pirates also had many skilled pilots.

She was right and attacks began to concentrate on the Kamidake. Only a few hit, but the hit rate was growing.

“I hope you built it with good shields ... ... huh?” Makihi noticed the Kamidake's doing something strange, and her eyes opened wide. “... Are those ... ... Light Hawk Wings!?”

Three Light Hawk Wings emanated from the Kamidake and then they bloomed as if a flower was opening. The massive film of light diffused all the attacks that were aimed at it.

“... ... What's that Racepshi? That's a second generation? There's a royal ship in the Kamidake?”

“Yup ... ... the Kamidake is attacking, the royal ship is defending. It looks like everything is working out well.” Washu rejoiced.

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“Let's try it again!” Seiryo beat his console with his fist again, but they jumped in front of a GP ship that released its shipping container.

“... but first let's pick up that shipment. We are still pirates...”

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“Miao Miaumau!” Fuku was excited by battle and being synced with Mizuki and was bouncing around the desk of the central terminal.

“Kamidake's attack power is still rising.”

“Our hit accuracy is amazing,” Amane was excited, too.

All of Seto's operators had nothing to do as they sat around watching it like a movie.

Mikage began to cry.

“I bet she's hungry.”

“Ms. Mitoto would you please?” Yuzaki handed a baby bottle to Mitoto.

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“Ho ho ho, there's nothing to do, should we have tea?” Mikami asked.

“Sounds good,” Airi said.

The officers went to make tea for everyone and handed it out. It seemed to be more of a movie watching party then a tea party though.

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“AAAAAH! Why can’t we find the Da Ruma!” They had jumped about ten times, but no luck.

“Maybe you’re too lucky.” Maya said.

“What?”

“Your luck makes you avoid fights... So maybe you’re just too lucky to jump into one.”

“You may be onto something Maya. We encounter a shipping ship every time we jump, and they keep giving us their cargo ... ...”

“And without any resistance ... ...”

“And most of them have had valuable items.” Barry and Cohen said.

“Hmm, I see! Alright! Abandon the lucky items on the ship! Hurry!”

“Roger that!” The ship ejected its lucky items into space.

“... Oh my... I didn't mean all of them... Sis, do you think we’re going to be okay?” Maya asked Komachi strangely.

“We have to... we need to get to the Big Da Ruma.” Komachi was concerned about the safety of the Big Da Ruma and didn't understand the meaning of Maya's words.

“Well, yes, but...” Maya sank back into her seat without saying anything more.

“Disposal has been completed!”

“Okay! Jump!”

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“What are you doing?! Shoot them down quickly!” Da Ruma shouted excitedly. He would have fallen off his throne if his love affiliates on both sides weren't supporting him.

“The mobility of the Kamidake is rising abnormally. We can't keep up!”

“I don't want to hear you whine! This is a big fleet! We can't lose to one ship!”

“But they have Light Hawk Wings, the Kamidake must be equipped with a royal ship ...”

“Screw their Light Hawk Wings! They can't cover all of space with them! Surround the Kamidake! Attack from all directions with the power of numbers!” Da Ruma instructed. The fleet quickly began to reorganize into a row of omnidirectional attacks.

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“What's wrong, Racepshi?” Makihi who was feeling the battle suddenly opened her eyes. “... ... Yes, I understand”

“What's wrong? Did this ship say something?” Washu, who had been observing the battle silently until then, looked at Makihi.

“It wants to tell the things I am feeling to Mizuki ... ...The royal ship that exists within the Kamidake.

“... ... Will your customers be okay with that? It seems like a conflict of interest?”

“Mizuki is a 2nd generation. It can ask for that information anyways. Racepshi can’t refuse.”

“Well then, I guess it can't be helped. Thanks for your assistance.”

Makihi closed her eyes again and began to feel the waves of battle throughout her whole body.

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“What! What is this data!?” The data of the Big Da Ruma and all of its ships were displayed on the monitor of Kamidake with tremendous momentum. Kiriko was puzzled by it.

—— Kiriko. That ship, Racepshi is sending me this data, Mizuki said.

“That ship?”

Seto, who knew that Racepshi was a third-generation tree, immediately understood its intention.

“Amane, attack the displayed targets! You told me earlier, you were confident that you can hit even a pinpoint right. Please show me.”

“OK! But please explain this to me later!”

“Miao! Miaaaaaaaaooooo”! Fuku crowed.

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The large monitor on the bridge started moving, the shape of the bridge changed.

“What!?”

“The energy output of the Kamidake is climbing rapidly!”

“No way, it's already past all measurable limits!”

“Fuku-chan's personal data is not being recognized! This is an abnormality! It's out of my control.” Hakuren shouted.

“The control panel ... ... it's changing shape!” The shape of the monitor displayed to the operators and amount of information displayed dramatically increased.

“Come, on! Let's do this Fuku ... ...”

A direct link with the Kamidake was formed with Amane who was in charge attacks. It was as if Amane herself became the Kamidake, she suddenly felt like she had been thrown into outer space. It felt like she was personally and directly attacking using her thoughts to input commands.

“Amane!?” Kiriko, who was directly linked with Mizuki, also felt Amane's input. The fact that Kamidake and Mizuki were synced meant that Amane and Kiriko were also synced. The two momentarily locked eyes and smiled wryly.

However, the two immediately felt something odd and they snapped to look at the front monitor at the same time.

“More Light Hawk Wings!?”

At that time, parallel to the three Light Hawk Wings created by Mizuki, three more Light Hawk Wings appeared. And they overlapped each other, and a shape change of the Light Hawk Wings themselves started.

“What's going on!?”

“The energy values of both Kamidake and Mizuki are rapidly rising!”

“High level weight vibration has occurred! We're still shaking violently ... ...”

“At this rate we'll put a crack in space!” Hakuren reported, nearly screaming.

“Stop, stop it! Fuku, Mizuki!”

“I don't mind! Keep going!” Seto shouted.

“Seto-sama!”

“We've broken all measurable limits!” The shaking and trembling stopped.

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“What happened? What was that shaking ... ... Is there another Imperial ship?” Da Ruma asked as a shiver ran down his spine. He was worried that the devil princess and her ship were about to appear.

“No, the epicenter is the Kamidake!”

“Mr. Da Ruma, there's been a change to the Kamidake's Light Hawk Wings!”

“What?! ... ...HUH?!”

The pale light of Light Hawk Wings around Kamidake began to spread even wider as it turned into a beautiful transparent film. It was a beautiful pattern like lace knitting, just as if the Kamidake wore a dress.

“What ... what is going on?” Da Ruma muttered in a daze.

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“It's finally materialized ...” Seto murmured like a soliloquy.

“No way ... the Light Hawk Wings, did you know that was going to happen?”

“Yes ... ... I've seen it once before, when Mizuho and Karin act together they create the same phenomenon.”

“Oh, so, that time with Funaho and Misaki?”

“It's said to be a phenomenon unique to twin trees where they make two sets of Light Hawk Wings together. We've been unable to reproduce it with our other ships. It means that the compatibility between Mizuki-chan and Fuku-chan is excellent.”

“Washu said that the Kamidake was designed under a concept different from Ryo-Ohki, which assumed there was another ship, and it was to be engaged in collective warfare, perhaps this is the real power of the Kamidake.”

“But Fuku-chan can't create Light Hawk Wings ... so why are there 6.”

“Royal ships and Ryo-Ohki have quite similar properties, in fact Ryo-Ohki caused a similar phenomenon when she struck Jurai seven hundred years ago. I wasn't there, but ... This proves it.”

“Incredible… …”

“There is a lot of about the Light Hawk Wings that we don't know.” Kiriko replied.

“Even so, it's amazing - we're completely shielded around the Kamidake, there're no blind spots, the damage rate to the hull is zero and the hull repair rate is even higher than normal.”

Even if the Light Hawk Wings prevented direct hits, the diffused energy would damage the hull of Kamidake, albeit slightly. In addition, in a concentrated fight with a large fleet, the amount of energy that was diffused became enormous. Of course, the Kamidake had self-healing capabilities, so it wouldn't be destroyed so easily, but there was no doubt that a time limit still existed. However, if the repair rate of the hull exceeded the degree of wear, the worry that it would be destroyed theoretically disappeared.

“Response and accuracy of evasion and attack are further rising!”

“Precision prediction of enemy ship movement has reached almost 100%.”

“Amazing! It's totally invincible, this is ridiculous.”

“We don't know how long we can keep this up for. We must strike now! Yuzaki, Mikami, Ringo-chan. Please join the operation, Seina, please lend me your seat for bit.”

“Uh!” before Seina could get up, Seto forcibly sat down in the captain's seat. He was pushed away by her splendid ass. Its soft feel puzzled Seina as he ran away from the seat.

“Oh no ... ... what about me?” Mitoto tilted her head.

“Mitoto, please give Mikage her pacifier and you over there, get Seina some tea.”

“OK ♡”

“Aaaa aaaaa.” Mikage seemed to be happy when Seina came nearby. She gripped Seina's sleeves tightly.

“.....” Seina looked at the situation with a puzzled expression as he picked up the tea that was handed to him.

× × ×

Seiryo jumped out once again but not to the Big Da Ruma, but a fleet of GP battleships. They began to fire.

“We can’t avoid it!” The ship shook.

“The damage is minor!”

“As expected, this ship was made based on the Daedalus after all ... Alright! Counterattack ... ...”

“There is no time for that! We have to get to the Big Da Ruma!” Komachi shouted to Seiryo.

The GP ship hit them again.

“Enemy fire! ... No damage this time.”

“Fine, pull the slots!”

They began to get the random co-ordinates and jump, but their ship was damaged by the jump and ended up falling out of hyperspace.

“What was that?”

“That was AHP! We’re screwed!” Komachi's said uneasily.

“What is AHP?”

“It makes friction with the vacuum created during hyper-space navigation and converts it to gravitational energy. It was Tarrant's secret weapon. He used it to capture the first Kamidake ...”

“Why does the GP have it!?”

“The Kamidake escaped, they must have gotten some and reverse engineered it to make more.”

“So, we can't jump?”

“Our communication system is down too!”

“I'm sensing GP ships jumping out ahead of us!”

“Aaaaaaah!” Barry screamed. A huge GP fleet jumped out and bombarded them.

× × ×

“Da Ruma-sama! The damage to the ship has exceeded 10%!”

“What? How?! We’re supposed to have luck on our side!” Da Ruma suddenly remembered something. “Why isn't the good luck fleet here?”

“They don't our coordinates ... ... Oh!”

“You idiot, why didn't you tell them!” Da Ruma's face turned red.

“... ... Call them right away. Victory will be ours soon enough! Move to an all-ship defense formation!”

“Okay! Our call jamming has been lifted!”

× × ×

“The Guild's fleet is switching to a defensive formation.”

“Are they trying to run away?”

“Doesn't seem so, maybe it's an endurance race.” Seto said.

“Endurance race? What are they planning to by buying time?”

“Reinforcements?”

“Perhaps a luck ship? It's odd that he hasn't shown up yet.”

“Jamming has been canceled! Communication being broadcast!”

“Yeah... that's what I thought would happen.”

“What do we do?”

“Hey Fuku, do you know how to do your sister Ryo-Ohki's Gungnir?” Seto asked Fuku kindly.

“Miah!” Fuku said happily.

“Good girl, let's try it for a little bit.”

“Mia! Mia aaaaaaaaaaaaaao!!” With Fuku's cries, the Light Hawk Wings which were spread in a lace shape twisted like a drill. The Kamidake, began to spin with terrible momentum.

“... ... Ahahahahaha! Amazing! Way to go Fuku-chan!” Seto laughed.

It was more powerful than Ryo-Ohki's Gungnir. It looked like a needle rather than a spear.

“What?! What is that!?” From the perspective of Da Ruma, it looked like a line of light.

“Sir, the coordinate code has been sent; they should be heading here soon ...”

× × ×

At that time, the Unko was surrounded by the GP fleet and was being bombarded. But since it was a ship modeled after the Daedalus the damage was minimal.

“We can't jump or do subspace communication unless the AHP is eliminated!”

“Get rid of it quickly!”

“We need to use a special detergent to remove it. Even if we had it, we couldn't use it in these conditions ... ...”

An attack from the GP directly hit the AHP, causing enormous tremors, Komachi screamed as the Unko shook.

“... ... Your screams are unexpectedly cute.”

“Don't say such things with a serious face!” Komachi said turning bright red from ear to ear.

“Sis if we can't remove it, how about we purge the exterior?”

“Huh?”

“It's just ornamental right?”

“Oh.... that's true!”

“But if we do that we abandon all of good luck items attached to it and dumping what we had inside got us into this situation in the first place! If we lose any more we will probably die when we confront the Kamidake!”

“I think you’re reaching... that makes no sense.” Komachi was now red with anger this time.

“Damn it, fine! Be an idiot, I give up.”

“Purge it! Ha ha ha!”

× × ×

“Ahahahaha Ha ha ha ha!”

“Mia! Mya mya mi miya”! Seto, Fuku, and Mizuki laughed as the Kamidake flew around and made its way closer to the Big Da Ruma as it penetrated the defense forces. Its sharp Light Hawk blade penetrated the enemy ships one after the other, destroying them one after another. It was an attack named the “Gai Vulg” that was distinguished as being different later from Ryo-Ohki's “Gungnir”.

* * * **Translators’ note: These are names of Germanic mythological weapons wielded by the gods if my mythological memory recalls correctly. * * ***

“Well, that was fun, next stop is the Big Da Ruma!”

“Shouldn't you end this already with your Triple Z?” Yuzaki asked.

Seto turned her thumb downward silently. “Boooo.”

× × ×

“Whatever you do, stop him! Destroy the Kamidake!”

“Da Ruma-sama! The Kamidake is here!”

“What!” Da Ruma turned to the central monitor, the Kamidake was about to penetrate the Big Da Ruma! “What?! How!?” He glared at the Kamidake.

“Half of our power reactors have stopped functioning! Hyperspace jumping is impossible!”

“Da Ruma, this is dangerous! Let's flee!” However, Da Ruma shuddered with anger.

“This ship is a symbol of our guild. It is the guild! To abandon this ship is the same as abandoning the Da Ruma Guild!”

“If you're safe then we can rebuild! Please give the order to evacuate to all ships sir, the guild can still survive!”

“Chhh ... ...” He hesitated to take the advice his vice president was giving him.

“Da Ruma-sama! We've got a call from the Unko, it seems to be heading for us now!”

“Really? Everyone! Victory is at hand! Don't surrender, bear it, we can endure! Victory is as good as ours!”

That was the choice that led to the end of the Da Ruma Guild.

Chapter Five: Conspiracy and Plot

Kiriko and the others were in a strange outdoor bath in Mizuki's living space. It was a bathtub in the air dug in a megalith suspended by a number of thick vines. It was a bathtub that 20 people could easily fit in comfortably. From the bathtub was a tunnel dug into the cliff attached by a suspension bridge. The tunnel was the way to the dressing room and the lake below.

“Ahahaha, cheers!” Seto gave a big stretch to release the tension of battle.

“Fuku-chan, you did great!”

“Myan!” Fuku was also in good spirits as Seto patted her head.

“Even so, it should have been just a test flight ...”

“Well, the original goal was to find a lucky ship.”

“For some reason fighting the Big Da Ruma and crippling the Da Ruma Guild .... leaves me with slightly complicated feelings ...” Former pirate Ryoko's reaction seemed more complicated than Kiriko and Amane's. For her, the Guild was a huge former ally base, and the Big Da Ruma was a “ghost ship”, it had never been found by the GP before. But it had been defeated in less than a day.

“I would have enjoyed it more if the mid-level executives hadn't rebelled and forced a surrender ...” Seto recalled the excitement of battle and wore it on her face. “Yes, but thanks to that, the Big Da Ruma was captured intact and almost no one died in the battle, oh ho ho.”

“The problem is that a pretty good number of Space Pirates have escaped to Racepshi, if those guys try to rebuild the Guild, it could be a little troubling.”

There were also many Space Pirates who flew by ship back to Racepshi to take refuge rather than escape with super spatial jumps because the battle zone was quite hectic.

“Even so, they had to abandon their own ships outside, right?

“There's no choice but to let them, because that's where the medical treatment center for the injured is, and Makihi was the one who sent the data to Mizuki-chan.”

“The reason there was so few dead people was thanks to that, that's a plus for Fuku and Mizuki's reputation.”

“Ho ho ho, even if nearly forty percent took refuge, we were able to get the primary and secondary goals, so it's still a great harvest.”

A pirate’s ship is a house for them and of course the primary method by which they pirate. Of course, there were rich Space Pirates with multiple ships, but that was only a small percentage of the total population. Although there were many Space Pirates who didn't carry their assets on the ship, the ship was still the most valuable property for them. In other words, if the ship was

captured, even if they escaped to Racepshi, it was the same as losing their vehicle for work and all their property.

“Most of the Space Pirates who lost their ships will just leave the business.” There was always the option to go under the control of another great Space Pirate, but it was a humiliating situation to work under someone after you had been the Captain of your own ship. Even if you went into debt and got a new Space Pirate ship for cheap second hand, it wouldn't compare with a ship that you spent good money on and customized over the years. Probably, nearly half would be destroyed early on.

”More than that, now I have the Big Da Ruma!” Seto gladly looked up at the sky of the residential area. There was an image of the Big Da Ruma projected so as to cover the whole sky there.

“... ... No way ... you were able accommodate the Big Da Ruma within Mizuki's subspace!?”

“That's just insane, leave it to a royal ship to do such a thing ... ...”

“I understand that it's troublesome to talk about the situation as we conduct the investigation into the ship and the battle, but I can't help but be jealous of your acquisition ... ... Hohoho.” In other words, Seto forced the situation so that the Big Da Ruma became property of Jurai.

“Because I commanded Kamidake and Imperial ship and arrested the Big Da Ruma, the priority is on Jurai. And because the director of the Academy will handle the investigation, you can affirm that right?”

“Well, at the moment Seina is directly reporting to Ms. Airi, right?”

“In the meantime, I'll hand over most of the other pirate battleship we captured to the GP, so be patient for a while and I will publish this information when I can.”

Since it was possible to store the whole Da Ruma, it was easy for all the other ships to be stored and taken with them. But if they did that there would be a big problem and they would have to hand over the Big Da Ruma as well. So, by letting them have the pirate ships to investigate, she earned dibs when it came to investigating the Big Da Ruma.

“Ho ho. So, you want us to check it last?”

“No, we will allow an investigation team from the GP at an appropriate time. Until then I'm sure you have more than enough to deal with.”

“Well, in any case, it will take us some time for post-processing this large number of battleships ... well, it'll get done somehow.”

It was difficult to collect and manage planetary ships as evidence. It was difficult to move the Big Da Ruma without super spatial navigation, and they would have to do research management while staying in this area if they had it. There was no telling how much funding, personnel, and fighting power had to be allocated to do that. But if it was stored in a royal ship most of those problems were solved, except that the GP couldn't directly lead the investigation.

“Thank you.” The trade between Jurai, the GP, and Academy's three leaders was established in the bath.

“Well then, is Seina is still over there?”

“There are talks piling up over who to partner him with.”

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”I started from nothing. I jumped into the world of Piracy with a single vessel and now it's come to this ...”

Seina and Da Ruma were sitting opposite each other in a luxurious conscription room in Kamidake's staff residential district. Seina looked like a grandson who was being told a story by his grandfather.

“Uhuhuhu...”

Somehow the two beautiful lovers of Da Ruma were on both sides of Seina weeping as if Seina was their husband now. It was a sign they recognized Seina who beat their boss as their new boss. That's why they were now Seina's women. Of course, it was because the girls enjoyed being that way.

“And one day, after I had been through many battles, when I got this funny looking statue of a creature that I bought at an antique shop, my fate changed, and the world opened wide for me!” He said, referring to the doll next to him.

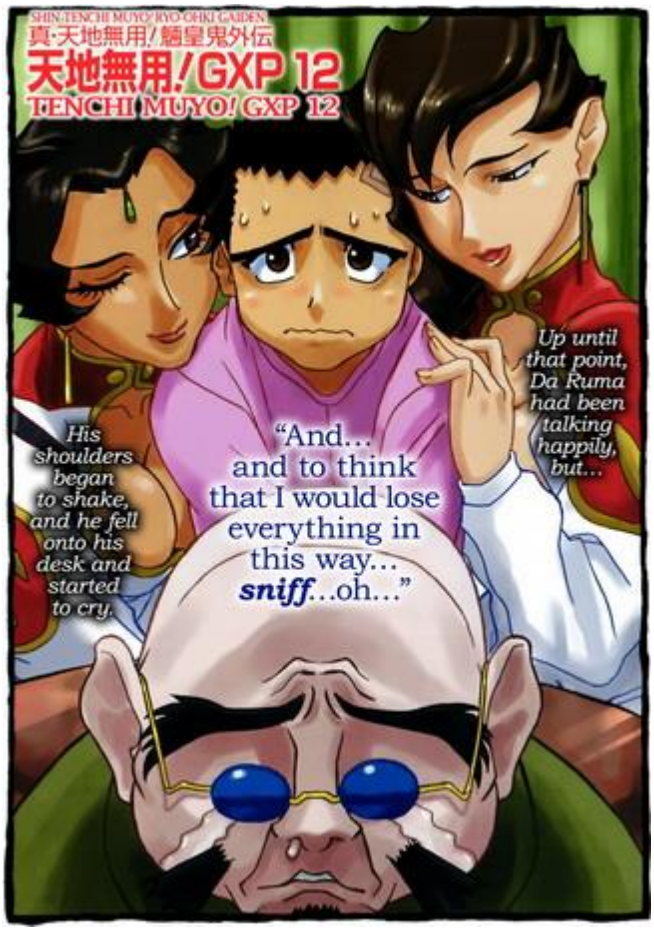
“Is that possibly ... ... why you're called Da Ruma?”

“C'mon, you already know me so well. I had heard the name of the figure from the antique shop and later date renamed myself to Da Ruma.”

“Ha, ...” However, Seina was more consciousness towards the label on the doll, which was stretched over the lower part of the Da Ruma doll rather than his origin.

“Hey! Are you listening to me properly!?”

“Sorry, sir.”


SHIN·TENCHI MUYO! RYO-OHKI GAIDEN
真·天地無用! 魎皇鬼外伝
天地無用! GXP 12
TENCHI MUYO! GXP 12
His shoulders began to shake, and he fell onto his desk and started to cry.
“And... and to think that I would lose everything in this way... sniff...oh...”
Up until that point, Da Ruma had been talking happily, but...

“This is why young people in recent years haven't been as successful ... ... After that, everything was going well, and the guild expanded with the momentum of bamboo.” Da Ruma was talking happily until then, “That is until you came into the picture ... ... And now, to be losing everything in this way ... ... ugh, oh ...” He began to shiver in his shoulders, and at last he fell down on the table between them and burst into tears.

“Really, I'm sorry ...” There was no choice but to apologize to the adult crying in front of him. And Da Ruma, rolled over the desk and stopped in front of Seina.

Property of Airi Masaki was written on the old label on the doll and that's what Seina was concerned about just a while ago.

× × ×

“Prepare yourself ... Seina Yamada!” Seiryo had left the mess hall and was standing in the dock at Racepshi that the Unko was moored in.

“Good thing we arrived here safely.” Komachi had also finished eating and stood next to Seiryo and looked up at the Unko as well.

“How is this safe?! The exterior is completely gone, and the president was caught by the time we got there!”

“I wonder what would've happened if we had jumped out in the middle of the GP and Jurai ... ... somehow we were able to escape to Racepshi, there was still some luck left I guess.”

Thanks to the purging of the exterior, the look of the ship changed drastically, it wasn't even recognizable as a lucky ship. Otherwise, it would have been curtains for them.

“... And there are still many guild member here, we can make the decision to rebuild the Guild here.”

“I'll leave it up to you, in any case I'm just a third-party employee of the Guild.”

“Then what are you going to do?”

“I know! We will shine again, let's take down the enemy of the president!”

× × ×

Airi had returned safely to the academy's president's office.

“By the way, how is Da Ruma's hearing progressing?” Seto was at her desk and asked Mikami this as they drank tea together while Airi checked documents that had accumulated while she was away.

“He's being extremely cooperative, as if something has possessed him to confess. He seems to have mellowed out greatly since being captured by Seina ... ... Hohoho.”

Mikami showed images of Da Ruma's solitary confinement cell on the monitor. There was Da Ruma performing Zen meditation with a gentle expression.

“It's amazing that that jump happened, Washu-chan, it seems like a result of Seina's good luck overlapping with that of the Big Da Ruma's.”

“Good luck, that's a surprising phrase to hear.”

“Of course, the data we collected certainly helped, but we're still missing that good luck ship.”

“After all that, you couldn't catch it?”

“It came to the Big Da Ruma, once they sent word of the encounter, but despite a wide scale search we couldn't find the ship.”

“Well, I wonder if the luck of the Unko also played a part in us finding the Big Da Ruma?”

“Could you imagine such a thing?”

“It would be a funny joke, hoho.”

“Even if we say that we narrowed it down, there were tens of thousands of possible locations, so Seina's achievement was still great, we landed it in a single try.”

“And he showed the power that might exceed the first-generation Imperial ships, Kamidake and Mizuki are also great. So, I'm more interested in that then the Big Da Ruma.”

Airi came close to the sofa where Seto was, her check of the documents was over.

“Oh, are you done already?”

“I stayed up all night long ...”

“Hohoho, cheers for the good work.” Mikami handed tea to Airi. She drank all the tea, even though it was still fairly hot, and then she took many sweets and candies and threw them into

her mouth. Her tired brain wanted sugar. And then they watched the battle recordings of Kamidake which were flowing in. It wasn't only data recorded by the Kamidake, there were also videos recorded by Racepshi and the Big Da Ruma.

“..... Even so, having shown such power, it'll be difficult to handle The Kamidake in the future. Since Fuku has a brain and her body has an astral, she will be treated like a Royal ship, but it seems inevitable that full-blown research is inevitable from those in leadership positions. For the time being, Seina will have to graduate from the GP Academy. I'll continue to serve him just like I serve every other police officer we have.”

“..... Judging from our records on the Da Ruma Guild, quite a few Space Pirates managed to escape.”

Mikami looked in Seto's Direction.

“It can't be helped if they escaped to Racepshi ... ... Well, I supposed it’s good for us. It's dangerous for the space pirates to become disorderly, in that sense we’re lucky a large part of the guild still exists.”

“Hohoho. Is it possible to catch them all so they can't escape? Currently all the high-ranking pirates have been caught.”

“Oh ... was my ploy obvious?” She had planned for them to escape.

“The Congress of the Galactic Federation has decided that the Da Ruma Guild won't be completely destroyed. The boundaries of the territory claimed by the Da Ruma Guild is adjacent to the Renza Federation's space... We don't want it absorbed by the Pirate Guilds over there now do we?” She admitted in a frightening but dismissive way.

“When the survival of King Balta is announced and approved as a formal nation, the Da Ruma Guild, who were originally Baltan Space Pirates, will undoubtedly be merged with Balta ... and that kingdom is under Jurai's control, so it all works out.” In other words, that space becomes Juraian territory.

“.....Everyone at the meeting almost acted like they were practically compelled to agree.” Seto said admitting that it was intentional.

“When Balta's survival is announced, you'll regret it, especially Seniwa.” Airi said looking at Mikami.

“If we can take control of the pirates who dominated that area, then Seniwa also benefits as a result, and in that situation realistically, Jurai will be at the forefront of the Renza Federation Pirates so there will be no complaints on our end as Jurai will be defending us all from them in a way.”

The benefit of obtaining a vast space was great, but it also required a lot of labor to defend it. As a member of the Galactic Federation, you'd never know it, but if you're adjacent to an organization that you are always in combat with, you'd need a lot of money and talent to monitor its defenses. Even though Juraian space had increased by a large amount, it was quite doubtful whether it matched the income that could be obtained from a territory with such little development. The defense of the space in this case was actually something only Jurai could manage to do.

“Well then, what about the rumor that there are spacecraft with the same power as that of Royal ships in the shape of humanoid weapons?”

“Yes, it's true, as few as there are, they seem to be fifth and fourth, and even some third generation class weapons there.”

“Hohoho, that is also a troubling matter ... When it comes to facing such an enemy, the GP, if it was leading the matter, would likely use it for military expansion. After raising taxes of course...”

“So that's why Jurai wants it ... ... Won't that be impossible to deal with at first?”

“Well, that's why I want to keep the Kamidake ready to use, because the other party consists of Space Pirates, we can't fight them directly with the Royal Ships.”

“Besides that, introducing a large quantity of royal ships to the area will alarm those in the Renza Federation, and it will take time and money to do a massive suppression campaign like before Seina arrived ...” Ringo and the accounting troops would be furious.

“In the meantime, Balta's border defense is going to gradually be led by the GP, but to a certain extent the Kamidake will have to be used to fend off the space pirates.”

“So, what's the timing going to be on Balta join the Galactic Union?”

“I'm thinking it would be best to do it at the same time as the Independence Declaration, I still haven't decided whether to negotiate it with the Federation in advance ... but that's another problem ...” Seto said glancing at Mikami.

“What do you want to do ...?

“A necessary evil is nothing but evil if you don't need it.”

“However, I feel like it is still needed a quite bit.” Mikami looked up to the sky as she said that.

“There's no choice but to do so.”

“Yes, I know ... Anyway, it's fortunate for us that the new leadership on your end is considered effective so far ...”

“There are those who are going to break from the Kuramitsu family anyways, but ... thank you.” Airi lowered her head and presented Mikami with potatoes as if it were a child's reward.

“I was conscious that it would happen ... ... but I didn't think that this day would come to be realized as quickly as it did.”

“A fully complete Galactic Union ... ... It's no longer a dream.”

“But before that we have a lot of cleaning to do, we have to drill and fill the cavities in our ranks.”

* * * **Translators’ note: No, you aren't missing something this is a vague section, she is referring to the part of the shadowy faction of GP military to which the scene now cuts to. * * ***

On the screen a lucky ship was projected.

“I will not go forward with supporting such a thing!”

“Ahahaha.”

“It's a mistake to do this during such an important transitional period!” Taima banged both his fists on a round table.

“Well maybe... but it can't be helped but to blame Nakita, not that anyone could ever imagine such a situation anyways ... speaking of... how is the situation?”

“Ha ha. We're currently undertaking efforts to kill the Space Pirates who are running away.”

“Then when is a better time than now! The military has completely blundered on this issue to such a great extent, and what's more is that now the Big Da Ruma has been secured by Jurai!”

“By managing to put the Da Ruma guild in such a broken state with just one Kamidake ship, the momentum of military unnecessaryists has also increased.”

“The road to the Seniwa envisioned by Taima has been lost.”

“These things are not just problems, this is a crisis for the existence of a prosperous GP army, and we need a new enemy to avoid this. The biggest guild of space pirates has disappeared! This is a chance for the other guilds to expand their power, but since the guilds left are mostly small timers and there is a limit even if they expand their power, the most convenient possibility is ... ...”

“Tarrant? But he's difficult to control.”

“The value of the Kamidake has further raised due to him, because he has handed over the existing Daedalus reserves and parts and manufacturing plants. We need to have them hand over the Kamidake with the terminal brain body as soon as possible.”

“Huh! That was nice of him.”

“And he added another criterion in addition.”

“It's not something outrageously difficult, is it?”

“No, we have to capture someone.”

“One person? Who is it that we have to hand over?”

“This guy.”

“Him!?” The executives who saw the man's photo monitor changed their complexion.

* * * **Translators’ note: It's Dr. Clay. * * ***

“Is that alright? What if he tries to mass produce the Kamidake?!”

“We don't have to worry. After all, it was made with human hands, can't be any more troublesome a thing than a royal ship now, can it?”

“Knowing its creator, if we get the technology, can we mass-produce it here?”

“Judging from the person's character, mass production is impossible, the Daedalus is a good example.”

Despite the fact that The Daedalus was a mass-produced ship, only one ship used by Tarrant was ever in operation.

“Also, this last time it was working in conjunction with a royal ship, although it's a powerful ship on its own, there's no need to be too afraid.”

“Either way, the guilty charges put on by this man are all military-related things, it wouldn't be a problem to change up his sentence a bit.”

“However, Mikami is a problem, we must be careful not to get caught.”

“Hmmm ... let's wait for the situation to calm down and then let's take Kamidake.” A satisfied smile appeared on Taima's face.

× × ×

Despite the lack of luck during the earlier intense fighting, there was still a certain amount of good luck left in the Unko. The containers that they had taken were connected in a long trailing line behind them like they were in traffic on a transcontinental railway.

“Ha ha ha! We're making tons of money today! At this rate reconstruction costs for the guild will be no problem at all!”

“You should become the new leader!”

“Don't say such foolish things you idiot... I'm just doing my best for the sake of all of us. Someday I will rescue our president and defeat that retched Seina Yamada. Until that day, I won't rest!” Seiryo got up quickly and decided to pose towards the main monitor.

“... ... By the way, why haven't we encountered the Kamidake yet? We have to be the only pirate vessel still out there. This is totally unexpected; they must be neglecting their duties!”

“Perhaps our luck has recovered to previous levels.”

“Well ... Hmm, I guess even warriors are allowed to rest.” Seiryo leaned against the backrest with his arms folded.

“We're picking up something on radar!” Barry raised his voice and tension rose throughout the bridge.

“Seina Yamada?!”

“No, it's a cargo ship from the energy mass ratio, it seems to be full an unusual amount of cargo.”

“Alright! It's time to get down to business!”

× × ×

“Actually ... I was asked by Seiryo's father to retrieve him.” In Kamidake's internal lounge Seto was speaking to Seina.

“Since the Da Ruma guild has been crushed, can't you let other people handle that?” Amane said reluctantly.

“Even so... ... Mr. Tennan has had no luck reaching him, and besides that will never work. If he is called back during the contract period, they're supposed to pay a penalty.”

“Are you serious ...?” Everyone was truly amazed.

“That's just like Tennan family ...”

“Originally that statue was there to ensure their commerce with the Da Ruma Guild, but because the other party has been crushed, they can't expect any profits and they don't want any more of a loss, so they want us to take him back in the form of arrest.”

“A gold spoon makes for an easy break.” Neiju said, Seto nodded nicely.

“That's why I'm trying to have you get him back into GP custody ... ... but as for arresting him ... ...”

“Uhuhuhu ... ... He's going to rot for a while, isn't he?” Amane looked joyful.

“When you calculate the amount of damage done by the lucky ship as of now, he's looking at about thirty years.”

“Ahahahaha, that's wonderful! Let's catch him! We can sink his ship if he resists, right?”

“... I feel sorry for him.”

Apart from Amane, everyone was largely sympathetic to Seiryo. They disliked him but didn't hate him. And to those not directly harmed by him he was an interesting character from a distant viewpoint.

“Quit wasting your pity, that idiot is just reaping the shit he has sown. He brought it on himself.”

“But even if we have to capture him, the problem is that the Kamidake hasn't been able to encounter a lucky ship since we encountered the Big Da Ruma... even using the data we got from that.” Kiriko quickly operated the terminal and calculated the data. “... ... The odds of encountering him again gives us four years and two months at the soonest.”

“Four years? ... ... For Lorelai Seina that's nothing.

“The shortest time is of course the next time we jump out.”

“I need you to capture him faster and securely.” Seto smiled a mischievous smile. In her eyes you could tell she had thought of something.

“I think I'll make him come to us.”

× × ×

“The acquisitions officer has a message for you Captain. It seems that every shipment we captured is full of messages addressed to you.”

“What?”

“Similar things are being transferred to us from other Space Pirates. From the scans we preformed it doesn't seem to be anything dangerous. What do you want us to do?”

“Huhuhu ... ... OK, please bring me one.” As Seiryo strangely twisted his head, quite a large case was transferred in. The inside was packed with letters.

“Are there a lot of them ... ...?” He took a copy out of the case.

× × ×

In the Academy Solar System, on one of its outer rings, an event site was being built suddenly. A medium-sized general-purpose unit acted as the base of the construction site; various kinds of construction equipment were working. It was a kind of mobile tent shack.

“It's coming along quickly.” Seto, who was watching the construction from the control room, said satisfied. Airi and Mikami were also present, inspecting the progress of the work. Next to Seto was Ekushito Racepshi, the general manager of Racepshi.

“Indeed, and it's only been three days, I never thought one could do this in such a short time.”

“For us, it's a very routine matter. Thank you for letting us administer this.”

“Well consider it an apology for arresting your greatest tenant.”

“Well, it wasn't so bad. I got to witness a wonderful event that we rarely see, and the only thing I was surprised about was that you wanted more people to watch it live.”

“I sent you the other recordings, whatever you can get for that will be more than enough of a substitute but if you can, I prefer you avoid publishing them for a while ...” Seto’s biggest concern was the scene showing the material change of Light Hawk Wings. This part alone would be a source of many problems.

First of all, it would create operational problems for royal ships. Mizuki was a newly grown royal ship; she had not been announced to the public. In other words, they did a space battle without permission. Also, the six Light Hawk Wings indicated a royal ship was there. If it was known that they were created by the Kamidake that would also create a variety of problems. The same went for the footage of the Kamidake's Gai Vulg.

“Ho ho ho, there were lots of witnesses and also images taken by customers of Racepshi flowing on the net, there was no way to hide it. Other countries and philosophers are requesting verification in confidence.”

“Did you think that it would be misappropriated Airi? Everyone is celebrating the capture of the Da Ruma Guild. So the Galactic Federation will sit on the issue for a while, but no other action is needed ... for now, we have to urgently investigate the Big Da Ruma.”

“Well for now, the original videos recorded here are strictly prohibited from being shown ... oh ...!” Ekushito noticed the caller calling on monitor. “Seina is here.” With that he turned to Seto.

“Please make yourself at home.”

“Thank you.”

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“Welcome, we meet again. It's been a while since we last communicated, so I'll introduce myself again. I am Ms. Makihi of Racepshi, please let me know what you desire.” Makihi said, wearing white-colored clothes, almost like a prom dress, as she gracefully bowed to Seina.

“Um ... We've been called here by Seto.” Although it was the second time, the first time she was only a picture, and this was the real thing. Overwhelmed by the lady's aura and glamour in front of his eyes, Seina found it hard to say anything.

There were many people with a beautiful appearance around Seina and those with intense personalities, but the atmosphere of the superior first-class Makihi was as good as any of them. Amane was a woman who demonstrated more charm on the stage and exuded it in the evening, Ms. Gyokuren inversely increased in charm at night, so currently they were only half as charming as usual, but still Seina was overwhelmed by their combined presence.

“Well, I've been waiting for you, Seina Yamada, The rumors about you are questionable, but I've heard lots from various people.”

“From the Space Pirates ...?” Kiriko came in front to block Seina's fixated view.

“Yes, not only from the Galactic Federation, but also from the Space Pirates of Renza.” Makihi shrugged off the feeble attempt at intimidation by Cerberus Kiriko. She carried herself with the dignity of an older woman.

“Have you been briefed on the rest of us?”

“Yes, of course. I know not only Seina Yamada, but I see Amane Kaunaq, Neiju Na Melmas, and Ryoko Balta are here ... ... Is it better to call you Erma for now?”

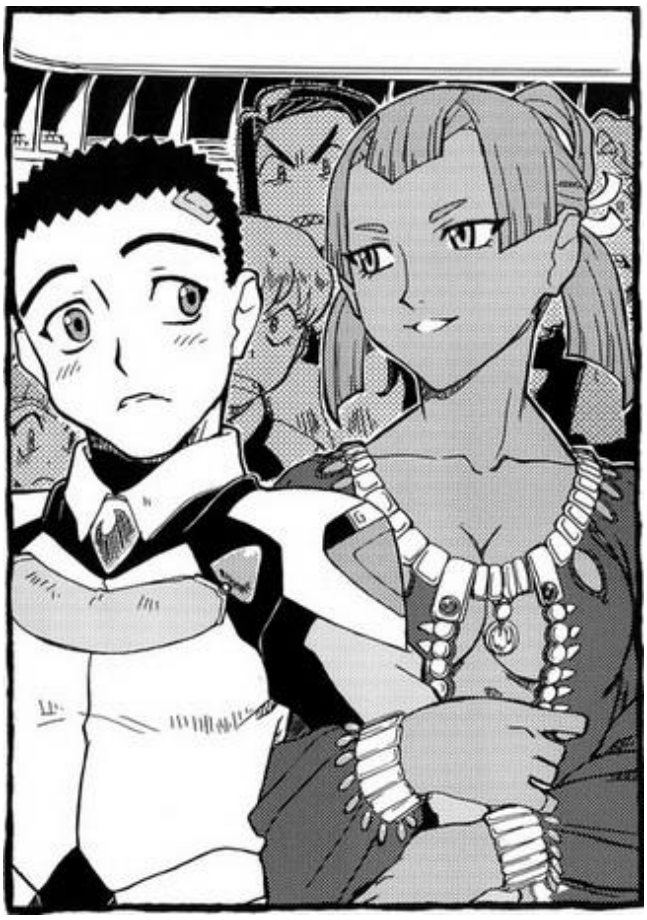
“... ... Yes, please do that.”

“Sure thing Erma, and then what about you Miss Kiriko Masaki Jurai.” Makihi briefly bowed to Erma and turned again to Kiriko.

“There's no need for that since I haven't been officially announced as a member of the royal family yet.”

“Excuse me ... ... Unfortunately, I need to leave, so I will leave you to my daughter who has just arrived.” Makihi said.

Maya, who had stopped behind them, walked in front of Seina and graciously bowed.



”I am Maya, of the dancers of Racepshi.” The feel of her elegance and beauty gave away that she was truly Makihi's daughter, she still didn't exude Makihi's presence.

“Well then, I'll excuse myself for a bit.”

“Ha ha, okay that's fine.” Seina's gaze was drawn to Makihi again, and his eyes were stolen by her every move until she disappeared.

“I was surprised ... She is nothing in real life like she is in video ... ... It felt like I was watching a scene from a movie or something.” Amane admitted. Of course, everyone there was of the same opinion.

“I will show you around here, please follow me.”

“Oh!?” Everyone's consciousness pierced the momentary gap of being released from Makihi. Maya walked with her arms interlocked with Seina's very naturally.

“.....” Because that gesture was so natural, Kiriko was staring at it for a while. It is as if the audience was watching a scene in a movie.

“Gaaaah!” Amane chased after Kiriko, whose temple was throbbing as she followed after Seina and Maya.

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Kiriko's group followed after Seina looking a bit stupid, the appearance of Seina and Maya together was very natural, so they were hesitant to interrupt.

“Hey Kiriko ... ... what do you think of this?”

“Well, no matter how you slice it...”

“Gyokuren-san, I expected your intuition to be sharp at such times, but ...”

“……Oh, I see.” Neiju who had been silent until then clasped her hands.

“What do you mean, you see?

“Because it seems so natural, she seems to have the same sort of atmosphere with him as he and Kiriko have.”

“… … Oh.” Everyone understood what she meant.

Kiriko alone had a slightly different interpretation. (... She resembles mom.) Her appearance was completely different, but Kiriko felt they resembled Tsukiko and Seina when he was young. Maya cuddled up with Seina.

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Seina and Maya and came to the VIP room where Seto's crew was.

“Thank you for your trouble... ... What do you think about the state of the venue?”

“Ha ha ... I was surprised that this much was built in only three days ...”

“So Seina, would you like to see from the view the top.” Maya kept her arm entwined with Seina's and pulled him towards the window. Seto rushed to stop Kiriko who attempted to go with them.

“... What is this all about?”

“Actually ...” Seto explained the history and her intention thus far.

“... Well then, is this all just for bringing back those idiots?”

“It fits Seiryo's personality, don't you think that the stage should be flashy?”

“I'm surprised he hasn't responded yet.”

“Yes, I honestly don't know what's taking so long to hear back from him.”

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Seiryo read the letter that was transferred to the bridge of the Unko, his hand trembled with anger.

“What does it say?”

“..... President Da Ruma's life will be spared, and his ship will be given back, provided I win a one-on-one battle with Seina Yamada!” Seiryo kicked the chair to vent his anger. “Seina Yamada how dare you take a hostage! You sneaky bastard!”

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“I'm sure that idiot will call any minute, hehehehe.” Amane said with confidence.

“... Well, if Amane says so, he will come ... but ...” Even if she disliked him, Kiriko was a bit confused about Amane's attitude when talking about her old friend.

“But Seto, we're still members of the GP. For the time being we can't forget about the threat he poses...”

“Oohohoo! Of course, so we have set a cowardly trap using the biggest gathering of science that the Academy has to offer.”

“Don't say such a thing with such a smile!”

“She sounds like a villain.” Neiju was also confused by Seto's expression.

“Your views on good and evil change according to your standing position. Either way, for Space Pirates we are the enemy, so to them we are evil. I'm kindly playing the role of villain exactly as they assume I will.”

“Oh, yeah. That's right.”

Seto, Airi, and Amane were smiling without any guilt. As expected, Mikami was pretending not to listen because she could not synchronize with the opinions of Seto from her standpoint as the GP academy principal.

“It's certainly valid if you consider our opponent's personality.”

“How kind I am ... ...”

It couldn't be helped either way. Kiriko was left with a wry smile. Seto approached the window to watch Seina.

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“So...” Maya put her hands on Seina's shoulder. “Have you heard Mr. Seina?”

“... Heard what?” Of course, Seina thought that this event was a mistake, but he also didn't think it was possible to avoid a battle. He just needed some time to accept the situation.

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It was a large-scale battlefield; they had sent an intimidation letter to the villain. It was an unacceptable situation to put a GP Academy student into. As a human being whose bad luck brought others misfortune, he didn't expect to be the one to enact justice as much as he thought he would be a burden to everyone involved. Seina would have also preferred not to get involved in something that made him seem like a villain.

“Well, Lorelai Seina is the biggest enemy of the Space Pirates, and an Earthling, which that stupid guy hates ... ... I can't think of any one more suitable.”

“But his opponent is Mr. Tennan, whatever his personality is, he's skilled.”

“That's right, no matter what we have to take safety measures ...”

“... .... Hmpf. How rude of you to assume I won't stop the fighting way before that.”

To Kiriko and others, it was known that the battle was inevitable, and as expected, Seina also knew this. Kiriko diverted her eyes from Seina as if she was embarrassed that there were no other methods to resolve the situation.

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“I don't know about this ...” Seina looked at Maya who was next to him. “I'm pretty unlucky.”

“Hey now, it's a chance to be on a big stage. Even if you wanted it, an opportunity like this rarely comes along.” ♡

If you think about it, Maya was the person who was hosting this event. It wasn't an unlucky thing for her.

“.....”

“All right, then we'll make sure you have a good instructor.” Seto said putting her hand on Seina's shoulder, she had silently snuck up on Seina.

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“Go get him, uhuhuhuh♡” Seto said, sending Seina off with a smile.

He remained stunned, as he was dragged off by the collar by Kanemitsu.

The moment Seina disappeared, Seto stopped waving her hand and turned toward Kiriko. “This is a tremendous, once in a century confrontation. If you know someone who wants an invite Kiriko-chan, please list them for me. The advance tickets are sold out already, so the number of invited guests is limited.”

“You sold out already! You're making money off of Seina's battle!?”

“Oh no, we will donate the profit to charity in full.”

“That's not the problem!”

“... ... The strongest luck in the galaxy vs. the strongest bad luck in the galaxy ... ... Its perfect promotional material.” Maya said with a full smile.

“What are you saying!”

“I think that the excitement of our customers is necessary for sublimating Seiryo's anger.” Maya quarreled with Kiriko. Prior to that, despite having met with Maya for the first time, it seemed like they had known each other a long time.

“Yeah ... I would say that's about right.”

“Stop saying things like that Amane!”

“If we can get that idiot back here, we can also contain the lucky ships, then we won’t have to force Fuku to hunt them down, or would you rather she work herself to exhaustion again Kiriko?”

Fuku who experienced her biggest battle yet in unison for the first time, was hospitalized for examination accompanied by Hakuren, after she had fought with the Big Da Ruma.

“Fine! But don't try to justify it being interesting to me!”

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Seiryo had thrown a large number of the letters into the incinerator chute.

“... Well, needless to say, this is an obvious trap.” Komachi said coldly, Seiryo was immersed in his work.

“Go on! Show yourself! Seina Yamada.”

Even if Seiryo discarded it or lost it, the battle invite letter would just be transferred to him one by one soon afterward.

“..... How many letters is Seto going to send? I guess they know it's just going to rile him up.” In the meantime, the number of battle conditions had been reduced leaving only the last one.

“Ha ha ha! This is the last straw Seina Yamada!” Seiryo threw the last letter in the incinerator.

“... ... are you going?”

“Naturally!”

“But in fact, the Da Ruma Guild has collapsed, the deal you had with the Guild has either shrunk significantly in profitability ... ... or has disappeared completely. Why don't you just go home already?”

“If it was just a matter of business then indeed, I'd have made the decision to go home. But this is a matter of a man's pride! I will cast the hammer of justice at the despicable Seina Yamada, and I will help the president! More than anything I am the Captain of this ship. As long as there is the Unko, the place where I will be is here!”

“... OK, so what's the date and time of the battle?”

“Oh uhm... I never thought to remember such a thing...” When he realized he had thrown away the last letter he instinctively jumped into the incinerator chute.

“... ... That idiot”

It was thirty minutes later that Seiryo was sorted out and discovered in the pile of inflammable garbage.

Chapter Six: Hiroshi's Old Days

“Don't you think it will be nice once she gets a human body?”

Miki's father Hiroshi was looking a little lonely in the living room of his house.

“Hiroshi-kun,” Raireza nudged Hiroshi with her elbow.

“Oh ... ... what! Oh yeah, congratulations. Congratulations.”

He noticed Raireza staring at him oddly and Kirche staring uneasily, Hiroshi hurried to smile.

“Is something distracting you?” Kirche was worried she may have made Hiroshi remember a bad memory.

“It's nothing really. It's just that it was such an interesting research subject, it's a bit sad that it's over with now, but soon you will have a physical body. So, that will be more interesting I guess.”

“Hmm ... Hiroshi you know that the data we get from her, when compared with the data from your daughter, is worth a fortune.”

“Oh, that reminds me, did you find Miki's whereabouts yet?”

“That's still a work in progress ... I'm not done yet.”

“Hiroshi has had trouble solving what she sent, it was an original program.”

“I could cancel the protection mechanisms in it, is that why you can't find Miki's whereabouts?”

“That won't help. It works by a mechanism that lets you know the coordinates by combining it with something else, probably some number ... but no matter what number I use, it never makes any sense.”

“Oh, then we have to find what the pass number is ... ...”

“I've tried many possible values, but .... well, I started with her Three sizes --- (hips, waist, bust) --- and have done everything from there right down to her birthday ...”

Hiroshi noticed the two women staring at him with a look of contempt.

“No, no! No! It was in the data from her physical examination when she entered the GP Academy! It's not like I knew because I took her measurements secretly!”

“Oh, is that so? ... That's good to know.”

“Hmm, I didn't have to measure that, I know the growth of my daughter.”

The facial expressions of Raireza and Kirche relaxed.

“I was surprised that I was so surprisingly respectable but well ... ... Ha ha ha.” Hiroshi murmured more than he should have.

“……Ah!” The two women had on steep expressions again.

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“... And so, none of the figures I've put in have yielded results.” Hiroshi, who was seated on the floor, finished talking.

“But we have her location narrowed down by 10% for now but it's still under investigation. We're still tracking Tarrant and his stakeholders and thanks to that we have been able to exclude quite a few possible places ...”

“Still, Hiroshi, don't you think it'll be faster if you just solve for the co-ordinates?” Raireza said Hiroshi remained silent.

“I see… …” Kirche who still felt that that Miki was kicked out of NB because she was there felt sad.

“I might be misunderstanding something about the needed input, but until I figure it out, that possibility is as good as 0. Until then I'd rather focus on happy news like Kirche's.”

“Hmm, yes it's good news, I think it'll be a good change for me.” Kirche said brightly.

“Anyway, in regard to this matter, Jurai will do a full backup of you, so after that Hiroshi it's up to you, and then afterwards Kirche we'll introduce you to Seina.”

“Yes, I understand, thank you.” Kirche said brightly.

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On the way home from Kirche's house, Hiroshi looked back over his shoulder at her house.

“... ... You're like a father leaving his grown up daughter to make a life on her own, Hiroshi.” Raireza said.

“Eh!?” Hiroshi blushed. There was no doubt that Kirche overlapped the figure of his daughter Miki in his mind, and if she ended up with Seina, it would only complicate that matter in his mind.

“We'll have to have all our meetings at my house now, since she will be a real person now.”

“But, but ... but I have to work ...”

“Don't be so uptight. If you don't loosen up, you'll never get any results once you get stuck in a rut. You don't want that now do you?” Raireza grabbed Hiroshi by the arm. He began to pull hard to try and get away.

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“Wait, wait a moment! Not now, I'm still at work.”

“Tennyo, Hiroshi and I are leaving early today, see you later!” Raireza returned to the real world and grabbed Hiroshi and dragged him out of Airi's workshop with her.

Hakuryo and Tennyo looked up at them shortly before returning to work. The staff, accustomed to Airi's behavior, were also a bit surprised at Raireza's intrusion, but after the storm passed by, they returned to their usual everyday routine as if nothing had happened.

Raireza, launched Hiroshi into an open top convertible car in the parking lot, she hopped in the driver’s seat and started the car with an elegant maneuver.

“Oh, what is that in the back... ... Raireza?”

“What kind of alcohol do you like Hiroshi?”

“Eh?”

“I don't usually drink at home, so I bought some, but I don't know if I got any of the kind you like.”

“Even if you did, I wouldn't drink it ...”

“Sometimes you have to drink, there are things you can’t talk to each other about without it.”

“… … To each other?”

Raireza turned violently and went into the nearby supermarket parking lot. She parked and went into the supermarket to the liqueur department and came out with a large bottle of sake. She headed straight to the section handling high-end liquor where specialized advisers were waiting.

Hey, Raireza, what are you doing?” Hiroshi was a little confused. Now that he worked at Airi's laboratory, his income was incomparable with what he made in the past, but plainly speaking, the cheapest thing is the place was something he still would never have ever dreamt to have bought to drink for any occasion.

“It's my treat ... relax.” Raireza said, then she spoke with the adviser. She picked out the 10 luxury items they picked out for her casually as if she was buying from a bargain bin and had them put on ice.

“Wow! Are you serious?” To Hiroshi it seemed a bit overkill.

“Well then, let's get going.” However, Raireza did not seem to care much, she even paid for it with a satisfied expression.

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Raireza's car rose from the road and sped past the seashore until they passed through a gate and proceeded up a driveway. They went into the tunnel at the head of it.

“... ... Is this a transfer gate?” After a momentary discomfort, Hiroshi noticed that the outer wall shape of the tunnel had changed. As they proceeded, they found themselves in an underground parking lot where lots of luxury cars were parked.

“Hey Raireza, why didn't you have the sake transferred directly to your place?” Hiroshi said, lifting the sealed case containing the liquor out of the backseat. Because there was a weight relief levitator, he didn't feel the weight, but because of the price he was still worried about it being damaged.

“Because the taste of sake will be ruined if you transfer it.” It was a kind of drinker's urban legend. If the taste of sake changed with transfer, transferring people, and other things would be impossible, and they were technically transferred going into the tunnel it was more just tradition to take it home yourself.

“Here we are.”

After Hiroshi's biometric registration was completed, they went through the door of the elevator which opened suddenly. The elevator began moving to the top floor at once without stopping at any other floor.

“Wow, a Penthouse ... ... you must make a lot.”

“This whole thing is my house; the other floors are just research facilities or warehouses.”

“Then what's with all the luxury cars in the parking lot ... ...”

“You can have one if you want it... or you can just drive it in my name if you like.”

“No way! I can't drive such a car. I'd be terrified of something going wrong. I'm terrified even driving a used car.” Also, one of the reasons why he declined the proposal was that he was concerned about the taxes on transferring ownership of the car.

“Oh!” Upon arriving at the top floor, the elevator door opened. The distinct smell of old books wafted in. The floor was marble and all around the walls were shelves, as if they had walked into a library. There were also exhibition cases with old books beautifully lined up, showing off books so that the cover and the illustration of the inside were beautiful was displayed.

“... ... You have a lot of books.”

In this era, it was natural that books were converted into data, and accessed via a central data bank, books of all countries belonging to the Galactic Federation could be read from anywhere. Of course, if you downloaded the data, you could read it anywhere in the universe. It was not even necessary to read a book, you could put the data directly into your memory. Just having it as data, you couldn't learn it as knowledge. It was just like having a dictionary, so to speak. Although it was in memory, there was no direct link to other information. Although it was possible to do a link between information to some extent automatically, it was impossible to use

it unless it was customized to your own preferences. In other words, it filtered out all the stuff you wouldn't care about. It was like a form of speed reading; you couldn't really grasp it until you fully looked it over to gain a true sense of knowledge.

Reading a book used all 5 senses and was still the most effective way to learn. Almost everyone, as a child, as part their education, had once read a book but most people did so in the form of a monitor which displayed like a book in 3 dimensions. And old-fashioned paper books were precious antiques, the books here were worth a fortune.

“Hiroshi, over here.”

Passing through a corridor of what looked like a museum full of books, they arrived in the kitchen. Although it was small in relation to the house, it was a kitchen large enough to fit a family. There was a central workbench with a reservoir that automatically sorted purchased ingredients and preserved them in an appropriate environment. Since it indexed items and their quantity, there was no need to worry about forgetting to buy something or running out of supplies. It could also be used to cook food automatically, so there was no need to go shopping or cooking as long as it was set to do things. Just wait and it made freshly cooked dishes.

However, there were a surprising number of people who still went shopping by themselves and cooked. Especially for people in the universe who had much longer lives than earthlings, there were things that caused serious mental aging problems which could be thought of as adult diseases of the spirit. It could be said that for Raireza, buying food and alcohol and bringing it home and cooking it was a small act of reaffirming her existence.

“Can you help me out a little?” Raireza put on an apron began to cook with a familiar look.

“Of course, of course!” He would feel guilty if he didn't help because the liqueur was so expensive, he also loved the sight of Raireza in an apron but didn't want to keep sitting around fixating on her.

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“... This is a magnificent view.” After the food was cooked and plated, Hiroshi went to the living room with Raireza. There were books there too, but Hiroshi was fixated on the huge window like it was a movie screen. From it the scenery of a deep mountain valley spread. The leaves of the trees had started to turn colors and a river flowed gently outside. It was the prefect room for reading books.

“So, you get all four seasons ...?

“In spring there's Snow Kasumi's blossoming, in summer it's dark green outside, autumn has autumn leaves, and winter it’s a snowy landscape. It is a good place get away from the hustle and bustle of life.” Raireza then sat down in a chair with a table across from it.

“Well, let's first make a toast.” Raireza pulled the cork from a bottle of liquor and poured it into a champagne glass.

He took a glass from her carefully and they clanked theirs together. The chilling sound of the glass echoed. Hiroshi drank it down quickly in order to calm his tense nerves.

“... ... How is it?”

“... ... ... Uh well ... ... I don't know how to describe it. I've never drunk this high a quality of liquor before. I'm surprised it's so astringent ... ...”

“The synthesis technology of the academy is elaborate, so anything can be delicious even if it's cheap sake, and if there is a difference in price, it's cause of the way it was made or because of who it's marketed towards. It's more to give the buyer a sense of self-satisfaction, some people just like how expensive liquor feels.”

“Well ... uhm ... I guess it’s like the difference in having a prototype verses a mass-produced item. The alcohol that I always drink is flat, and it feels like everyone could afford it but this has a bit of a kick.” He said taking a slow drink of the refilled glass Raireza pored him. “But yeah! It's definitely delicious.”

“That's more important than anything ... Come on now, let's drink up.”

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“Delicious cuisine and delicious sake. When you combine it with beautiful scenery and a beautiful girl, it's like paradise on earth. I hope there's not a price to pay for all this, ha ha ha.” Hiroshi was drunk now.

“Hmm ... ... well maybe ... I'd like to ask you for your life story as payment.”

“What!? Mine ...?”

“You can just keep it limited to what happened once you got to the Academy.”

“I can't believe that you would ever be interested in such a thing Raireza. I'm sure you've met people with far more interesting stories then mine ... ...”

“You're the creator of an artificial intelligence with an astral. It's impossible to say you're not an interesting figure, unlike Kirche's father who is a very ordinary technician who is inconspicuous.” Raireza said as she took out a new bottle of sake. It was a very famous sake that even people who don't drink know about.

* * * **Translators’ note: The usual 17 paragraph Shinju sake speech is missing this time so it might not be that. * * *

“Let's do this one next ... how about it?” Hiroshi rejoiced greatly to Raireza, as he hugged a bottle with a drunken expression.

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“First off I entered the Comprehensive Department. Even so, I got a scholarship, even though I came out of the country as a housekeeper.”

“How?!”

“The Comprehensive Department is like a basic preparatory school, those who aim for the Academy's highest peak try to get into the Philosophy Department. Those who enroll here number in the tens of thousands each year, but only those of the highest quality are admitted. But even being from a rural area, at the academy, I was just a person with a scholarship. Well, I managed to do my best in the first year, but by the second year my grades declined, and I was considering just dropping out.”

The Comprehensive Department had a school term of twenty years, after that it was possible to advance to the Philosophy Department upon graduation. Of course, there are also true geniuses who can enter the institute immediately by skipping over the Comprehensive Department. Plenty of people took more than twenty years and many people took exams to directly enter the Philosophy Department instead. There were still many people who got in from there, but there were a lot of people who went from the Comprehensive Department to other departments to make their name. Those who graduated from the Comprehensive Department were exempted from the entrance examination and were welcomed by the other departments.”

There were super geniuses who become philosophers at a young age, but for many it took hundreds of years, sometimes most of one’s life. So, for the last twenty years, even though he'd only advanced two years, he could always return to that point.

“I'm the definition of a worthless human being, I couldn't even accept the fact that I failed because my pride is high... ... finally my scholarship ran out ...” Hiroshi looked deeply into the amber liquor being poured into the glass. “... ... But I still had to earn a living to cling to my dream of being at the academy.”

“That's a story that I often hear.”

“But, as expected after receiving the scholarship treatment, I couldn't stand living a lower standard of life... So, I fell in with a rather unsavory crowd.”

“Hmm ... ... you mean ‘Human Hunters’, don't you?”

“The organization that I was with was completely illegal, and the worst kind. It was too late when I learned what they were doing. I didn't know how to escape, and if I escaped, I'd have nowhere to go and no way to do anything about it. I'd be ruined. Thankfully the pay was good.”

Originally, human hunting was a ceremonial aspect of welcoming freshmen, but Hiroshi's organization was a criminal organization. One which was way worse than Space Pirates and other

external illegal organizations. The victims they took were weak and were often kidnapped weeping and at best went missing.

“It was around that time that I met Tsukiko ... ... and that guy who was to be her husband, Ken Raraiba Steinbeck ...”

“What, Steinbeck ... ... like your daughter?”

“… … Yup.”

Hiroshi stopped talking there. It seemed that he was perplexed about whether to talk about it. Raireza added sake to a half empty glass.

“.....”

“Although Tsukiko was in a different school from me, she lived in a great neighborhood nearby ... near the academy bookstore, and of course she knew I longed for her and so did that guy ... ... Ken was a member of the student safety patrol counsel. Because I was human hunting, it was like being friends with the enemy.”

“He really was your nemesis.”

“It was nothing so noble ... I was a small-time villain, a pest to be exterminated.”

“How did you become friends with that kind of conflict?”

“He knew that I was from the Comprehensive Department and what I was going through and advised me many times on how to cut ties with them. He also encouraged me to go into other departments, but I thought it was too late for that.”

“I see, even if you wanted to ... ... the Organization wouldn't let you do so.”

“Yeah ... ... and then Tsukiko was chosen as a target for human hunting.”

“Kiriko's mother ... really ...?”

Hiroshi shook with trembling hands. “I wanted to stop the situation. I wanted to end that situation, so I anonymously gave the student safety association all the information they needed to act immediately.”

“And did they catch you in the process?”

“... ... You should have seen my face when it happened.” Hiroshi's expression relaxed but he still looked miserable. “Although it was my own doing, I was still caught up in it,” Hiroshi looked shyly at Raireza.

“Huh?”

“Ken was better than I expected, and he had already been promoted to the organization's Internal Affairs Department and worked closely with the GP. He knew I was the anonymous source; he had arranged for Tsukiko to be kidnapped and used her as bait.”

“Oh well ... so you fell right into his trap.” Raireza smiled and poured sake in Hiroshi's glass.

“The organization was destroyed, everyone was arrested including me, but I was given a light punishment thanks to his intervention. I felt ashamed, I was really embarrassed.”

“... ... We kept a close friend relationship after that, and it was just the natural course of things that he and Tsukiko began dating soon after. A few years later, Kiriko-chan was born ... They were really happy together; I was happy just enjoying their happiness.”

“What happened to her husband?” Raireza asked. Hiroshi clouded his expression.

“... ... A group that he belonged to went on a long-term research trip, and the ship was in an accident ... ...”

“What happened?”

“The detailed cause is unknown, a few professors of the Academy and students in the Comprehensive Department went missing as well. So, a large search group was organized, but it was half a year later before the ship was found.”

“What took so long?”

“It seems that it was compressed down to only 10 meters when they found it.”

* * * **Translators’ note: That's less than 32 feet. * * ***

“What!?” Raireza was taken aback.

“Someone's attack, natural phenomena, there are several possible causes, but none have been solidly identified, all we knew is that he was dead.”

“The black box of the ship should have still had data on what happened.”

“All we know is a strong spatial-temporal quake occurred in that area.”

“What!? ... ... So, if someone did that it would be hard to pin down right?”

The only thing with the power to create a spatial-temporal quake was a Royal ship. But to investigate that would require someone to give up the locations of all royal ships. That would mean exposing the location of all of Jurai's ships, which was a top-level secret. So of course, finding that information out was almost impossible. In that sense, even if they were a philosopher, those who died were treated as if they were ordinary people.

* * * **Translators’ note: Oh hey, guess what, it's 100% likely that it wasn't a Juraian ship. It was probably HIMC. * * ***

“It seemed like Tsukiko thought it was just an accident ... She didn't want to have to say to Kiriko that her father was killed by someone ... ... there was always the possibility that Kiriko would investigate the case if she came to the academy.”

“Maybe if she had heard as a child, but as an adult Kiriko heard about it from Ms. Amane. She doesn't seem too worried about it.”

“I'm relieved to hear that.”

“Well then, let's get back to your story.” Raireza took out a new bottle of sake, unsealed it, poured it into a new glass and put it before Hiroshi. “What did you do after being arrested for human hunting?”

“A year later, I became a civil servant of the Comprehensive Department with the help of various people ... ... It was great, I was able to learn a lot and become an Assistant Professor.”

“Hmm, a Professor of the Comprehensive Department...”

“Oh, somehow life and my studies came together easily after that, and it was a lot of fun for the next few years ... ... but then that accident happened.”

“So, why didn't you comfort Tsukiko when it happened...”

“She had a lot of other friends she could depend on .... And by then, I had already had Miki.”

“That's not going too well for you now is it ...?”

“It's been better.”

Raireza poured the liquor with a wry smile as if comforting Hiroshi. “Even so you made an AI with an astral with Miki, didn't you? But you never published anything about it. Wasn't it expensive to get things taken care of for Miki?”

“Yes... And the money I got from when I was human hunting was almost untouchable.”

“Eh?”

“I was afraid to use it ... nevertheless about 10% disappeared into my living expenses ... I thought to make a donation somewhere after the end of my sentence. But if it was for Miki, I figured it was OK to use it ... I tried my best to let her see pictures of Tsukiko.”

“Hmm ... ... How did you explain to Miki about her mother?”

“... I haven't said much, I decided to tell her she died in an accident, and that she was an orphan with no relatives. I didn't have pictures or video, or even know her date of birth. I didn't teach her any of that information, which is usually needed for students coming to the Academy.”

“Miki-chan was the top in her class and seemed to be pretty clever from the way she handed the data to Kirche-chan. She's a very intelligent child, when Miki was small, was not having a mother hard on her? Did she miss her mother?”

“Yeah… …” Hiroshi remembered that time. “I just told her ‘just look at her own figure in the mirror’. Because she looked very much like her mother. Then Miki started talking to the mirror ... the only thing she knew was the date of her death.”

“... ... The date of her death?” Hiroshi looked at Raireza.

”Even though I could justify not knowing her date of birth, it was impossible for me not to know the date of her death. I chose the day when Tsukiko returned to the earth, the day when I saw her last, I didn't want to ... ... but Miki asked me!”

“Hey, what are you doing?”

“How stupid I've been! That's the most important date for Miki, how could I have forgotten!”

“Do you mean ...?”

Raireza realized the meaning of Hiroshi's words, Hiroshi launched a monitor and launched the email left by Miki that had tormented him every day. He entered the date he had last seen Tsukiko ... Then ... ...

“ —— Dad ... ...” A recorded hologram of Miki started being shown with the numerals of the coordinates.

“... .... Miki, that was it after all!” Hiroshi cried at seeing Miki's appearance after such a long time.

“ —— I have no time, so I'll only say one thing,” Hiroshi looked at Miki puzzled. “—— You better tell me the truth when I return!”

“Aaaaaaaaaaah!?”

The expression on Miki was impressive, it was a really scary face. When Miki learned that she was a Pinocchio, she knew everything her father taught her was a lie. Still, Hiroshi had taught her that date was the death of her mother, so it was a date with some meaning, so she used it as the password.

“Sorry, Miki!” Hiroshi hid behind Raireza and bowed repeatedly in apology. Until he noticed that Miki's eyes looked anxious.

(If you think about it, that is a reasonable thing to ask) She was a teenage girl who witnessed Tarrant murder everyone on the ship she was on. When she was captured, she had no idea she was anything but an ordinary person, yet here she was trying to survive and adapt, and Hiroshi could understand that.

“I have such a cute girl.”

In Raireza's heart, there was a feeling of wanting to see this parent and child brought back together. She wanted to tell Hiroshi her feelings about him but first she knew this needed to be done...

“Hey Hiroshi, we should tell Tennyo about this soon.” Raireza stood in front of Miki’s picture and pulled Hiroshi off the floor.

Chapter Seven: Kanemitsu's Rampage

“... Fine weather we're having today.” Kanemitsu closed his eyes and lay on the grass in the old park near the Academy bookstore.

Seina uneasily asked, “... .... Do you have any special kind of sword training you can teach me?”

“... ... There is nothing so convenient that it can be taught to you in such a short period of time. Staying calm is much more important, if you learn this you can turn the battle around.”

“So that's what this is about ... ...”

“Seina, in the heat of battle, your worst enemy is yourself. It's often said that confidence is actually the best shortcut to victory. Tension, fear, and confusion will drop any ability you have to a fraction of their power.”

“I see.”

“That doesn't mean you will necessarily win, but it’s a good way to increase your odds. So, it's important to have a daily break. You don't have anything to do right now, so let's just relax.” Kanemitsu turned over and turned his back to Seina.

“... Is that OK? Won't Seto get angry?”

“Ahahaha. No matter what you do that crusty old hag is going to have her way. Don't worry about her, at least this is a place where you can relax without her meddling.”

“Eh?”

“Remember how things went when it came time to discuss matters between you and Mikage?”

“Oh… …” Between Seina and Kanemitsu, the air felt a little awkward ... …

“..... This is just like what she did to me before.”

“Before?”

“There was a time when I went to the academy when I was a child, I'd often take a nap here.”

“Wow! Really?”

“The Academy was originally Jurai's Royal Academy, so many people came here to study abroad, and Yosho and Airi were ambushed at that time.”

“Yosho ... Tenchi senpai's grandpa?”

“He's grown to be a little more of an adult, but Airi is still just the same ... or rather her physical figure changed, but the childishness of her behavior hasn't changed at all!” Kanemitsu said with a disgusted look, which a person thinking of Airi would have.

“... ... Ha, I see.”

“Seina, when you first came to the Academy, did she ask to guide you?”

“Oh, that's right ... ... I was told that she wanted to take me on a full one month guided course, but ...”

“In Airi's case it would have been a problem since it would turn from a few months to few years if you could stand it.”

“Hahaha .... I'm sure that's right.”

The tension between the two was diminished, Kanemitsu got up and stretched.

“Well then. Let me tell you about what's going on with Mikage.”

“Okay.” Seina took a seat.

“I don't think it's half as bad as you think it is. I won't stand in her way if my child grows up and wishes to be with you Seina. I don't have any problem with you. The thing I don't like is that this arrangement is the result of having that crusty old hag around influencing Yuzaki ... Well, I know that it will be unavoidable for my daughter to try to get away from her father someday, but at least until then ... ... Ehem, well... it's a bit difficult to express ...” Kanemitsu thought a little, but immediately raised his face, “I want you to be my daughter's only one.” He suddenly breathed a sigh of relief at getting that out.

“I also want Mikage to grow up normally. I'm honestly puzzled about what lead to this whole arrangement, but I'm also a bit glad. I thought that because of my bad luck this could only end badly with you... ...”

“So do you feel accepted now?”

“Ha ha ... well, I guess finally ... ...”

“Ahahaha ... ... It's going to take a long time to get to know each other each other. I'm getting hungry, I know a refreshing place. Shall we get going?” Kanemitsu stood up with a sunny appearance.

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“I used to come here a lot when I went to the academy ... I really miss it ...” Kanemitsu and Seina were eating while watching the spectacular view of ‘Washu's Pore’ on the terrace of Nashisu. By the way, Airi wasn't working there at the time.

“Yeah, it's good that the taste and menu hasn't changed since then. I was worried about what would happen once Airi took over the store ... Well, if you think about it, that Casa Igure woman couldn't keep running this place forever and Airi liked it... “

“... ... When I came for the first time, I didn't know it was hers, so I called out for the old lady in the back, and she got a real scary look on her face.”

It was Amane's fault but ... ...

“Ahahaha that sounds like it was a disaster: did she make you stand in the hallway holding water or make you write an apology over and over?”

“I had to write an apology a thousand times.”

“Ha ha, that's one of her lighter punishments. Anyways eat up! Food is important even if we don't have to do anything, not only to supplement your energy but also to eliminate stress and frustration.”

“Haha.” But Seina still ate nervously.

“... ... Are you still worried?” Of course, it was a fight against Seiryo.

“Oh, yeah ... ...”

“Once you learn the basics of swordsmanship, then victory is just a matter of delivering the blow first!” Kanemitsu stabbed some meat with a fork with great momentum. “... Anyway, no matter what, this is a show, not a real battle, moreover, the fighting style will be kept plain. It's just going to be a battle of the basics.”

“.....”

“If you're still worried, you can think of it like it's a fight between ships, not a sword fight.”

“Yes, but when I battle in a ship I'm protected by the ship, and so is everyone else ... ...”

“Look, I don't know how rough things are gonna get Seina, but they can't get any rougher than when you dueled Yuzaki. I don't know how much skill the man named Seiryo has but it can't be any greater than hers.”

“... But ... when that happened the people around us also got involved.”

“... ... Oh, I see. Is that what you're worried about Seina?”

It was a huge venue for millions of people, built through rapid and sudden construction. At the time of Yuzaki's battle, all the spectators were highly trained Juraian fighters, but this time most of them would be just common people. He was worried something would happen.

“I'm worried that things will get heated ... Professor Seiryo will get caught up in my bad luck and it will spin out of control and make things troublesome for everyone.”

“Then there's no other choice but for you to believe in Airi and that crusty old hag. They're familiar with you and everything you entail and have probably planned accordingly. Anyway, this is the academy.” Kanemitsu said while looking at ‘Washu's Pore’. As the huge runaway

experiment's results showed, the Academy was full of scars from dubious experiments. It was a place where you'd never know what would happen.

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“Mikami, are you sure it's best to leave things up to Kanemitsu ... ... Shouldn't we consider countermeasures?” Kiriko spoke to Mikami with a low voice so that Seto couldn’t hear her, while helping with the office work in the stadium.

“No, she has made a reasonable judgment.”

“Is it reasonable?”

“I know that isn't usually an adjective that fits Seto best, but yes.”

“It's not that I don't believe in Seto-sama and Kanemitsu, but ... ...”

“Ho ho ho. If you panic and mess around with things Seina will feel extra pressured.”

“... ... That may be so ... ...”

“Even so, it's too late now anyways, we can't fail in our strategy, but ... Kiriko-chan, do you have any information on him?” Seto chimed in loudly at the quiet pair.

“Oh, no ... ... I haven't heard anything yet, surely he must have gotten our letters ... ...” Kiriko quickly looked toward Seto as she was heading for a terminal.

Almost as if it was due to their conversation, a call addressed to Seto was suddenly displayed.

“Seto-sama we have a call for you.”

“… …for me?” Seto looked at the caller image on the main screen of the office.

“... We finally got hold of her.” Komachi said with a troubled look on her face.

“Oh, what an unusual call ... do you need anything?”

“Uhm ... well, the truth is that ...” Komachi blushed and began to talk shyly.

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“... ... So, he burned all the invites before confirming the date and time of the battle ...” Seto’s crew looked shocked by the stupidity of this situation. Behind Komachi, Seiryo seemed to be hiding.

“... ... Sorry, will you please tell me the location?”

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In the downtown area of the academy's main planet, the nightly festivities started.

“Well, this is nostalgic ... It's completely different from my era, but I guess students are always the same in some ways.” Kanemitsu dragged Seina down a strange back alley.

“Well, Kanemitsu, where are we going?” Seina stopped.

“For sake and women. It's nighttime after all.”

“But I'm still a minor!”

“Seina, you've earned enough money to be self-sufficient for the rest of your life already and doing a grown-ups job at that. You'd be recognized as an adult anywhere in Jurai. Don't say such silly things. Ah ha ha ha!”

“Aren't you afraid someone will complain?”

Kanemitsu who smiled graciously turned his face to the person who said that. “Mi... Minaho ... ... Why are you here?”

Behind her bright appearance was a powerful pressure. “Seto might be interested to hear about how you intend to train Seina.”

“I swear it was for Seina's sake ...” Kanemitsu made up a lousy excuse like a child found out by his mother. Whatever the excuse, Minaho wasn't going to be persuaded.

“If Yuzaki finds out, she won’t let you see Mikage for months.”

“Waaaaaaa ... ...” Kanemitsu panicked at the mention of Mikage. Seina sighed.

“Hahaha, I'm sorry to disturb you two, but I think it's too early for Seina Yamada to experience such things.” A couple came from behind Minaho.

“Oh Kazuki, Amame, I didn't notice you there ... ...” Kanemitsu stood upright with a nervous look.

Seina, seeing their GP uniforms, assumed they were high ranking people and saluted.

“Well, it seems nothing has happened yet so I won’t tell Yuzaki.”

“Well, that is wonderful ... You're really saving me ... ... Seina, these are Emperor Azusa's parents.” Kanemitsu said, standing beside the two while wiping off a cold sweat.

“Kazuki Yotsuga. Nice to meet you, my dear Seina.”

“I am Amame, his wife. I'm sorry for all the trouble my children have caused you.”

“Well, it's actually me who’s used to being the inconvenience.”

Kazuki gave off the impression of a gentle and kind person, rather than a dignified one. It was an atmosphere common to the people of Masaki family and the Masaki’s of the Earth. Amame felt like she had a strong strength to her, you could tell she was skilled in martial arts. Indeed, it could be understood from their atmosphere alone that these two people were Azusa's parents.

“Seina, Azusa was thrilled to be able to officially welcome Kiriko to the family, please think of yourself as family too from now on.”

“Yes, I will!”

“It's a great opportunity, I'd like to talk to you about it a bit more in depth, but we have to be going, so I must excuse myself.”

“Kanemitsu, see you around.” Amame said smiling but exuding an overwhelming power that was terribly frightening.

“Oh yes, of course!” Kanemitsu shed a cold sweat like a frog frozen in place from being glared at a by a snake. As soon as the three left, he breathed a huge sigh of relief and leaned against the wall of the building to recuperate.

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Kanemitsu and Seina, moved away from the entertainment district to a huge spa facility. It was a bath made of trees resembling a Japanese public bath. There were few customers at such an early time. It almost seemed to have been reserved for the two of them.

“... ... I would have been fine if it was only Minaho but Amame too... ...”

“.....”

“They seem like an interesting couple, is there anything to that?” Seina asked.

“Well, it's not that big a deal. Amame got married to Kazuki and since he was a commoner, she quit the royal family.”

“That seems like a big deal ... ...”

“It's common to the Masaki family ... ... For some reason, Masaki family members all seemed to find royal life to be troublesome. They're just like the first Juraian emperor's sister.”

“So did she quit the royal family and go to the GP?” He didn't know it, but the GP was still a predominantly Seniwan organization back then. It felt a little discomforting to have someone ask if a Juraian royal family member had joined it.

“Kazuki was originally a GP crew member, in Jurai's GP branch office”

“There aren't many opportunities for normal people to get acquainted with the royal family, are there?”

“He met her on accident, he thought it was part of an introductory battle ritual like the one Yuzaki did with you. She found him very different from the young people in the city.”

“… … Ah, I see.” Seina seemed to understand how Kazuki and Amame’s encounter went and how they ended up together.

“That's why Azusa-sama wasn't born on Jurai, but as I said earlier, most of the Masaki family aren't willing to protect the bloodline of the royal family. The Masaki family seemed to be constantly leaving and they couldn't make Kazuki-sama a member of the royal family, so that crusty old hag came up with a plan to welcome Azusa-sama into the royal family, but ... ... Uhuhuhuh.” Kanemitsu burst out laughing when he got to that point. He remembered Azusa's remarks during the ‘Ribbon Incident’ and how ‘crusty old hag’ entered Juraian vernacular at the welcome parade.

* * * **Translators’ note: There's no way he could have actually remembered this happening live because of his age. * * ***

“Huh?”

“Oh, nothing, anyways he probably wouldn't've stayed royalty for very long if he hadn't chosen a first-generation tree in the tree selection ritual. That sort of forced him onto the Juraian emperor's throne.”

“I heard from Ringo that it's really rare to be chosen as the owner of a first-generation ship.”

“Well, the real reason he had to become emperor was because that crusty old hag, who was the most promising candidate, declined to become the Juraian Empress.”

“Seto-sama?! ... Was the candidate to become Juraian Empress?”

“Since Azusa was still young, she still could have if she wanted ... However, she declined. But even declining, she is still the true top authority in Jurai. Azusa's tree came along with a lot of power, it just took a long while to realize.”

“Why did she decline?”

“Oh no, I don't even pretend to know how that crusty old hag thinks. But if she was the Juraian Empress, Azusa-sama would have lived life much more easily.”

“Easily……?”

“Although he has the respect that comes with the title now, Azusa-sama has a complicated past ... ... He suddenly brought a woman from an early stage civilization, from the Earth, and declared her to be the 1st Empress, and he declared Ms. Misaki who was set to be his first wife as the second empress and that upset her father Utsutsumi, and Azusa's son Yosho deflowered and had a child with the head of Airai's daughter, and then two of his daughters ran away chasing after Yosho, so trouble was abundant with him.”

“I see ... ... that sounds quite awkward, but who was the woman from Airai ...”

“Airi. Airai is the name of her birthplace. You should investigate the details for yourself. The main thing is that it was troublesome that he had a child with that woman ... but still it paid off in the end wouldn't you say?” Kanemitsu looked at Seina.

“Huh?”

“Uhuhuhu ... ... It seems that the fruit that those troubles sowed turned out to be extra-large and abundant.”

The Emperor's name was now respected by the people, and so was Funaho's. Airi was the head of the academy and Minaho was Seto's right hand. Yosho was alive on Earth and his descendants had accumulated a large military force. Ryoko and Ryo-Ohki and Hakubi Washu. Ayeka and Sasami were all there. Noike and Kiriko who became members of the royal family came from that trouble and so did Seina who was standing in front of Kanemitsu. If all these were fruitful events, the Masaki family should've been proud of the events caused by those struggles.

“Let's get you home so you can rest up for tomorrow.”

× × ×

The Unko jumped out to the place near the sun of the academy.

“What is that, some kind of colony?”

A floating construct on the monitor mimicked the shape of a Japanese style toilet on earth. It was a joke due to the ships name also meaning poop, it was Airi's idea, but Seiryo was unaware of the pun.

“I've confirmed with the Racepshi, we have docking permission.”

“Alright! Dock the ship.” They docked in Racepshi.

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“... ... Fellow crew of the Unko, I am going to rescue the president, I am entering this situation prepared for death.” Seiryo looked around at the crew on the bridge speaking heavily. “No one knows whether I'll be able to return here or not. I'd like you to be proud of being the crew of the Unko, but I ask that you judge the situation calmly and act accordingly, no matter what the results are.”

Seiryo looked around the crew again and turned his eyes to Alan. “If I get backed in to a situation where I can't return, Racepshi is going to bring you and the Unko to a safe place ... the one responsible while I'm away ... is Alan!”

“Oh, are you serious!?” Recently Alan had been removed from several major positions, so being declared acting captain from Seiryo was a surprise.

“Do I have to ask you?”

“No sir. Oh, thank you, I'll keep it safe for you!”

“Don't cry. I'll definitely be back!”

“All, salute to Captain Seiryo and deputy chief Komachi!” And with that command from Alan, the crew saluted Seiryo and Komachi.

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“Hey, is it okay to leave it to him in charge?” Komachi asked Seiryo who was sitting next to her in the cockpit of the contact ship preparing for departure.

“Sometimes it is necessary to give someone a great responsibility, if I can accomplish my mission everything will be fine.”

“I understand your intent, but I'm still uneasy about it.”

“I'll be monitoring them on Racepshi, and they have collars on. How irresponsible can they be?”

“Even so ...”

The small ship ejected from the deck of the Unko and quickly entered a short distance jump.

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“We'll keep the ship here, you'll only get it back if you are victorious in battle and whatever the reason, leaving on this ship before that is prohibited.” The GP member who met Seiryo was a familiar man to him. But now he was with the Space Pirate and not the GP, so he kept things professional.

“I understand.”

“Then you can dock.”

The small ship was guided by the beacon and went into the harbor. Then they headed to the hotel near the venue through a dedicated blockade.

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“What's going on? What do you mean?” Seiryo shouted at the front desk in the lobby of a luxurious hotel.

“Sorry, we had so much demand we couldn't hold your reservation ... ... The room we have left will work if you don't mind being together.”

“We don't care about the size, but it can't be co-ed! Men and women can't just share a... ...”

“Is there no other room?” Komachi blushed and interrupted to push away Seiryo. It was too embarrassing to have him shouting loudly about the relationship between men and women at the front desk.

“Unfortunately, all the accommodations in this hotel and in this neighborhood are fully booked.”

“I am a stakeholder!”

“And you're late! It's common sense that even people in the lineup have to arrive on time. There’s nothing I can do about it.”

“Fine, then I'm going back!”

“What are you talking about? We can't return to the ship unless we win!”

“Oh! ... ... Damn! Fine we'll find another place ... where's the transfer gate?”

“Unfortunately, your ID can not transfer from this area to the outside. Your movement to the outside is restricted ...”

“What!?”

“You're being confined here, what did you expect?”

The battle was tomorrow. They didn't want to have to track them down if they lost and became fugitives.

“I'll guide you to the room anyway.” It was a waste of time to keep arguing at the reception desk.

“Okay fine, please show me to the room.” Komachi, who couldn't bear the attention, followed the bellboy while dragging Seiryo, who was still unhappy, with her.

× × ×

Alan sighed as he saw the coverage of the event shown on the monitor in the restroom in Racepshi near where the ship was docked.

“It's a sad thing that we don't get to go down there and see it happen... don't you think?”

“Yes, but we have to stay here and wait for instructions.”

“That's right, the captain trusted you.” Barry and Cohen said with tired faces.

“Well. I don't care what happens to it honestly, I'll see you later. Come on Cohen.”

“What about Alan?”

“He has to be the responsible one. Let's get going.”

“Well, it's better than sticking around and listening to him complain.” He said in a loud voice and left the room and a cup of tea.

“Chh ..., I didn't ask for this,” Alan said sinking into the couch. “Oh, screw it, I don't care either.”

Outside he saw a hostesses dressed like a bunny at the entrance leading to Racepshi next to Barry.

“Who is she!?”

“It’s a little service for customers who are coming to the famous Racepshi entertainment hall.” A companion girl approached Alan while doing a sensational dance.

“Hey ... ... oh, be still my heart!” Alan stared at the companion girl's chest and ass. And he reached for her butt.

“Please don't touch me. I'm only here to serve you.”

“Can you take me to a vending machine?”

× × ×

“Welcome! Order whatever you like from here.”

The vending machine had various kinds of sweets and drinks and an elaborately programed display.

“It's pretty gorgeous ... isn't it?” Alan found the dollar slot.

“It's also a slot machine. It is a one pull and you’re done type slot. But if it hits, the payout rate is extremely high. Do you wanna try your luck?”

“Ah ... no, what else is there?” Alan thought about what else he wanted but couldn't decide. “... ... None of this is what I want... but the services offered seem interesting ...”

Most of the services were of low quality, nothing you could really enjoy waiting in a restroom.

Alan's line of sight was directed to the slot without knowing it. “Oh, this has the same name as the Lucky ship! That makes me feel extra lucky.”

Looking at Alan who couldn't decide, the companion girl pressed it.

“In that case ... ... let's try slots, uhuhuh.”

“Yes ♡ Start the slots!”

The slot rotated vigorously, and the reels stopped one by one.

“Oh!” A splendid fanfare rang out as all three matched. Winning sounds went off.

“Wow, this is amazing Mr. Customer! I've never seen such a big pay out, you got the highest that this slot offers!”

The amount displayed in front of him was more than Alan's debt.

“I did it ... I did it! I did it! Woohoo!” Alan victory posed.

“All thanks to that ship? Wow, it's truly amazing.”

“Oh ... ...!” Alan remembered the ship and now that he was free, he had the urge to go do something stupid in the Racepshi casino. “This is a chance to make more money!” Alan said but he remembered one important thing. “... ... No, I should just get out of here!”

He had luck and he could make more money. But as long as he had on that collar, he couldn't leave. Alan shed regretful tears for a bit before thinking things over carefully.

“Oh, you look sad, but since you've made enough to pay the debt, the collar will come off soon.”

“What! Is that true?” Alan was moved deeply and approached to hug the companion girl. She knocked him over with ease.

“Well, if that collar is from Racepshi, it will also auto deposit the rest of the money here for you.”

“Oh!”

A few minutes later, Alan's collar fell off and he pulled out the rest of the money and ran off with it to go have fun in Racepshi.

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The people lining up in front of the battlefield were excited to camp out for the night, but Seiryo and Komachi were trembling in the cold near the end of the line. Although they had a room, it was a lavish hotel with almost no amenities, there was no room for privacy with the bath or toilet and it was a flashy room usually reserved for newlyweds.

“... ... Oh, damn you ... ... Seina Yamada!”

“Look, just go back to the hotel by yourself. You’re the one who needs to be in good shape to fight tomorrow.”

“To even suggest such a thing! As Captain I can't let my subordinates stay alone in a place like this!”

“I have a cold weather blanket but only one...” Komachi took out a thin sheet made for a single person from the simple survival kit she carried on her.

“Then go back to the hotel ... It's all right! This situation is no problem for me! I'll get you Seina Yamada!”

× × ×

“Oh no, I thought we planned this perfectly.” Airi, who was monitoring Seiryo's situation, breathed a sorrowful sigh.

“Maybe Maya misunderstood the air between those two?”

“Ho ho ho, young people are just a little impatient. Seiryo is just too serious a person to indulge in feelings right now.”

“It feels like that is the case.”

“Or maybe on some level he realizes this is a kind of a honey trap, he may have subconsciously perceived the danger.” Mikami looked towards Seto. It was Seto who prepared the room for Seiryo.

“Oh, I'm sorry. What's that, I couldn't hear you? I'm really upset things aren't working out for them, I have a very close relationship with Komachi.”

“Ho ho, so it is a trap?”

“Yes, and I can't believe my trap didn't work, maybe this is also a benefit of owning a lucky ship?”

“Hmm, even away from it his luck is quite good, hohoho.”

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“It's so cold!” Some people were making bonfires around him. Of course, Seiryo's clothes also had a warming function built in, but the sleeves were short and much of his skin was still exposed.

“It is probably because this place is still under development, so it doesn't have proper air conditioning. Either way we can't have you losing to that kid because you're in bad physical condition.” Komachi grabbed Seiryo's hand and brought her body close to him and wrapped him in the sheet.

“Hey, hey!”

“Are you feeling warmer now?” Komachi's actions seemed strange to Seiryo who blushed and turned away. She was usually a little more sensitive at such times.

“Yes, I'm fine now! Thank you for warming me up.” Seiryo said, unleashed Komachi's hand and began swinging like he was practicing his swordsmanship.

“I'll get you Seina Yamada! Whatever bothersome difficulties I have to go through, I won't lose to you!”

Since everyone was loud and excited around them, Seiryo's actions and voice didn't attract attention.

“Good.” Komachi sat all night cold, as she watched Seiryo.

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Kanemitsu and Kiriko were talking.

“Well ... it's not that I have any particular objection to the fight but ... Is Seina's body going to be okay ... ... considering his luck?”

“Don't worry. They'll be using shock batons instead of real swords, so it will be fine.”

“I'm still not looking forward to tomorrow.”

Chapter Eight: Battle: Seina vs Seiryo

“Good morning ... ... Oh, you're already here? I'm sorry for disturbing you.”

The next morning, Kiriko entered the control room, saw Seto there already and panicked.

“Today, you should go and support Seina, all the controls and production will be done by Racepshi’s staff.”

“Oh ... but ...”

“Go if you're ready. We already have enough hands, I'm just here to watch the progress of the event.”

“Even so, there's still quite a lot of time before the starting time, should I be heading out already?”

The venue on the monitor was already full of a packed crowd.

“There's already a huge crowd waiting to get in. I'll have to run congestion mitigation just to get you in.”

“Oh, I see. Are all those people waiting to get in ...?” On the external monitor, it showed many people were trying to get into the venue.

“Wow, that's ... I mean, I saw a lot of big tents before going to bed last night but...”

Looking at the scenery on the monitor quickly, it seemed as if a large number of large summer festivals had been organized in one place, a great number of tents and mobile shops were spread out in a large area.

“Wait a minute ... why are there so many people?” Seto switched to the image seen from outer space, then Kiriko became worried. The festival like gathering was only a small portion of the people arriving for the show. Zoomed out, the crowd was the size of a city.

“A large number of tourists gathered, and the news covered it, so even more people gathered.”

“... ... The Academy's started the betting event of the century.”

“It must help that people just want to lighten the mood set by the death of Mr. Mikumo. The younger generation doesn't realize it, but it's been a very upsetting loss.”

“... Well, he's been around for such a long period of history ... ...” Twenty thousand years made him feel like more of a legend than history.

“Ho ho ho, my father liked the brightness and festivities of the academy. I think he would be delighted.” Mikami chimed in.

“Hey Kiriko-chan, how is Seina holding up?”

“He calmed down after he was told about what kind of weapons would be used at breakfast.”

“In a situation like this, it doesn't really matter ...”

“Well, let's leave things up to Seina then. I hope you'll wander around until they start the battle. I think it's a good idea to take a look at our business collaboration with Racepshi.”

“I understand.”

“Then let's get you to the seating area.”

Seto headed for a direct elevator behind the control room and Kiriko left the control room after.

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“Damn it! I get angry when I picture Seina losing to that fool.” As she walked along the aisle, Amane seemed to be offended, and she beat down her right hand on her left hand.

“... It can't be helped if he does, don't bother interfering. This is a one-on-one battle, let's accept the results with dignity.”

“Poor, poor big brother Seina ... ... I'll have to comfort you when you return.”

“Agh!?” Kiriko looked at Neiju with a dangerous look.

“... ... That is if it's alright with you.”

Each of the four people began to soak in delusions as they closed their eyes and daydreamed.

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“Alan hasn't come back ...”

At the entrance to a restroom on Racepshi, Barry and Cohen were waiting for Alan who was supposed to wait there until the morning.

“Huh ... I wonder what went wrong … ...” Barry looked around.

“There's no trace of a struggle, and no sign he was attacked by anyone, I think that it's safe to go in.” Barry said peeking out from the restroom.

“Mr. are you a stakeholder in that ship?”

Suddenly from a passage on the side, a woman in a leopard print costume with thick sunglasses and heavy makeup approached.

“Yes, but it's well ... uhm ... ... what do you want with it?”

“I hate to bother you, but I'd like to take it off of you.”

The old woman launched a deed transferring monitor and showed it to Barry.

“What is this all about?” Cohen had confirmed the certificate. Barry who was next to him was stunned.

“... ... Is this for real?” He whispered to Barry in a loud voice and Barry looked towards the older woman for and explanation.

* * * **Translators’ note: It's very hard for me to understand this girl, she must be speaking in a nonstandard dialect. * * ***

“Last night, Mr. Alan was gambling. He took his victory winnings, and he told me he was the man responsible for this ship. Well at first, we were awfully hungry so, we drank sake till the bottle went dry, and then he ordered caviar. He took care of everything until the money ran dry, then he got the lucky goods off that ship and started betting on them, but he kept losing ... ohohohohoho!”

“That bastard!” From then onwards there was no need for explanation. They knew he must have lost them the Unko.

“So where is Alan!?”

“I felt sorry for him, so I gave him some getting home money and a small amount of the money I made on tips, and he just left and went off somewhere, are you going back with him?”

Barry and Cohen sighed a lot at what she said.

“Well, well then, I ended up getting the deed to the ship, so hurry up and get your things off of it.”

“Wait a minute, we can't leave the ship ... ...”

“He's right ... ... We still have a lot of debt!”

The old woman had on an expression indicating this was troublesome.

“... If that's the case, I can hire you. It's a convenient safety practice to have someone on board who knows about the ship.”

“Oh, thank you!” They worried they would die if they were abandoned. They breathed a sigh of relief.

“Kekekeke! So, how much is your debt ...?”

The two quickly accessed the relevant financial institution and presented it to the old woman.

“... ... What a cheap amount of money ... Well, it's still a lot for a space pirate, I guess ... I'll pay it off for the time being, but you'll reimburse me though your consulting, and I'll pay you a living wage while you work on paying me back, so long as you work hard, Kekekeke!” The old woman smiled graciously as she cleared away the debts of Barry and Cohen.

“Oh wow, Thank you! ... Miss ...”

“Oh ... ... Ah, before we sign anything may we have your name ... ...”

“Oh no, have you introduced yourself yet? Please let me know your names, I'm Kuisu Panta, it's nice to meet you.”

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“Seto, the example case seems to have been successfully processed.” Karen said as she came into the area where Seto was.

“Yes, sorry ... with this it's checkmate.” Seto looked at Airi beside her.

“Now that the storage system is in place, we can start analyzing things as soon as they arrive, since it can handle most of the materials left in The Big Da Ruma. The part left to be examined is limited, so we'll separate and set those aside tomorrow and trash the rest.”

“OK ... ... So, Karen, how is the situation with Fuku-chan?”

“At first she seemed bored, but she seems to like having direct communication with Ms. Mikage, I keep the line open all the time ... Oh shit!” Karen unexpectedly said out without thinking.

“Oh, what's wrong?”

“I'm sorry, I forgot all about something ... It was lovely to see Mikage-sama.” Fuku watched Mikage sleep with great interest.

“So how are the other girls?”

“Everyone is fine, they have been taking care of Fuku and are awaiting further instructions.”

“Thank for your hard work.”

“Yes! Sorry I have to be going.” Karen bowed and left the room quickly.

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In Seina's dressing room, garlands and flowers had been brought from various places and they were lined up and stacked. Each was sent from a prominent person or organization. Just seeing it made him feel like how a big celebrity felt in his dressing room.

“Thank you for coming all the way out here.”

Kenneth and Rajau were in front of Seina sitting on the sofa. They were talking while eating luxurious sweets and fruits that were quite rare.

“No, thank you for this, because of you we got super rare platinum tickets!”

“I put in a reservation quickly on the first day, but as our access line was too slow ... it was sold out quickly.”

“Those who got tickets in time were all of the highest-ranking military members and philosophers etc. To them this is nothing .....”

“It's even hard for staff to get friends and family passes, ha ha ha!”

“Well, I'm glad that I could get my teammates tickets then.”

“Oh yeah, you did good.”

“Ahahahahahahahahahaha ... ... By the way Seina!” Kenneth and Rajau, turned around and looked at Seina with glaring eyes. The kind of eyes that you didn't show even your enemies.

“I asked Ms. Gyokuren when she came to pick us up ... ... That woman, and the others who were with her when they built the dorm! There not researchers at all are they? They work for Jurai's Seto, and they're your subordinates! All four of them!”

“So are Ms. Kiriko, Professor Amane and even Erma as well?”

“No, no ... Even though I was working as Captain, I was just setting the route. Seto-sama and Airi appointed them to be around me, I had no choice in the matter. It's not a relationship thing.”

Of course, for over half of them it was ... But he felt it was better to deny it.

“Then why is it that when Gyokuren talks about you she gets all shy and embarrassed and has a twinkle in her eyes?”

(Ms. Gyokuren! Seto-sama, how could you make such a terrible selection in someone to pick them up ... ...) Gyokuren was a woman with a beauty that was a strong poison to any healthy boy. Hakuren, Karen, heck even Suiren were all more appropriate people.

“What are we supposed to think when such a beautiful woman has such a magical atmosphere when talking about you?”

“Wow, you got a boner just by recalling it now!” Rajau said. Kenneth turned red and held down his crotch.

“So, you're going to kick Professor Seiryo's butt huh? ... ... Ahey!” Kenneth's body trembled in a panic he ran into a private bathroom in the dressing room.

“.....”

It was awkward to hear him crying from inside the bathroom, but he understood the feeling well. For Gyokuren it was half the fun of doing anything. For an otherwise polite youth, her glamorous atmosphere was too much! The stimulation was too strong. Fortunately, Rajau seemed to be able to withstand it.

“... Well, that's putting it a bit roughly.”

“... ... Ha ha ha, but it's also a bit correct.”

If his friends found out he went to Imuim without them they would have his head. Lucky Hakuren and Fuku knocked on the door to bring in another bouquet.

“Mia!”

“Fuku!” Seina wanted to run away but now that Fuku was happily charging at him, he couldn't leave. Seeing that Seina was sad, she too became sad and quit charging, although she didn't know what was wrong, she was puzzled. Soon he was suddenly surrounded by all four of Hakuren's group.

“Please do your best, but don't push yourself too hard.”

“If you do get injured by any chance, we will be carefully nurse you back to health.”

“Don't say such auspicious things, Gyokuren!”

“If you have anything you need you can leave it to us ♡”

“……Good luck.”

“Mia!” Seina was pushed down quickly and smothered by the four girls and one animal.

“.....”

Rajau and Kenneth looked stupidly at the sight from the shade of the bathroom door. They trembled with anger.

“Wow ... ... Seina, you traitor!!” Kenneth and Rajau ran out of the room crying.

“Kenneth! Rajau!” He tried to chase after them, but the girls wouldn't let him go. Seina was held in place as he listened to their footsteps grow further and further away.

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“Damn. Why does Seina get all the action! Aren't we teammates?”

“I envy Seina so much!”

“Chhhhh!” Kenneth who had run away while crying bumped into someone as he turned around the corner. They both fell back.

“Sorry, sir!”

“Watch where you're going ... ... Hey, is that ... Kenneth, is that you?” The woman he had bumped into was Miki Steinbeck's teammate Miranda and Caliche was next to her helping her up.

“Miranda-senpai, Caliche-senpai?” Kenneth and Rajau became quiet due to the sudden encounter.

“Hey, next time look in front of you when you walk!” Miranda said somewhat crankily, but she dusted herself off and put on a smile.

“It's been a while since we last saw you ... were you crying?” Miranda asked raising an eyebrow.

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“They want me to do sacred battle with this thing!?” With a shock baton for battle in hand, Seiryo was feeling indignant.

Seiryo's room had bunch of flowers. The other bouquets there were sent with abusive hate letters from various people that hated Seiryo, some of which were accompanied by curses. The kinds of flowers he got were not gifts for celebrations, only things which were ominous in flower language.

However, in the case of Seiryo this was normal, so it didn't matter. What was more serious for Seiryo was that he had to duel with a shock baton that looked like a toy.

“Did you expect them to let you slash up that boy?”

“Don't be stupid, this is a one-on-one battle with Seina Yamada, of course I did!”

“Well then it's good they gave you a shock baton, at least then he won't die.”

“... ... Indeed, then I will just have to beat him to a pulp!”

“What?”

“... ... Hahahahaha ... Prepare yourself Seina Yamada!”

Komachi got a headache

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”Ah ha ha! Indeed, I see why you were crying now!”

Listening to Kenneth's story Miranda consoled him like a mother would her kindergarten aged child. Indeed, both Miranda and Caliche had a considerably more adult atmosphere than before. Of course, this was partially due to their makeup and the body lines from wearing the official uniform of the GP, but it was also mostly due to the spiritual growth of overcoming Miki's incident.

“But why do you envy so much?”

“Eh?”

“Our colleagues and seniors say that most of them like Seina. But that as GP crew members of Seina's ship, they have to keep things professional, and when it comes to talking about his private relationships, he has abnormal probability bias, attracting the pirates, criminals, and disasters. The result is that while exceptional, his private life has to be kept incredibly closely knit, so to love Seina requires overcoming that and there are few people willing to do that. As far as we know, he has only a few people willing to even be around him...”

“... But wouldn't you be willing to trade for all that, if it was for a good woman?”

“Oh no, certainly ... maybe for one or two if I knew they were nice women, not their figure, but a woman who you could firmly depend on.” Miranda took a serious crack at the question posed by Kenneth.

“Well, I'd have to get to know that person, some people are only after Seina for his prestige and income... “

“... Miranda ... Caliche ... have you seen them?”

“No, should we?”

“... ... Have we?” Miranda and Caliche looked at each other's faces.

“I don't really remember. He was a difficult person to track down and the focus was always on things between Miki and Seina.”

“Excuse me ... ... I'm sorry for drudging that up.” Kenneth, who realized that he was being insensitive quickly apologized.

“As far as Seina was concerned, we were just Miki's supporters. But now that you mention it, I'd like to see what kind of beautiful women were her competition.”

“Well, if you're interested, then you'll have to go on without us to go see Seina.”

“Eh!?”

“I haven't forgiven him so quickly. We'll wait out here for you.”

“But ...”

“I can't stand to look at that traitor either. I'll see you when you get back.”

The two left and Miranda and Caliche went to Seina's dressing room.

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“Wow!?”

Miranda and Caliche rang the intercom and entered Seina's dressing room. They lost their words when they saw the women there.

“.....” Despite expecting as much from Kenneth's suggestions, what they saw was even worse now that Kiriko and her crew had joined him there as well. They felt like they had gotten lost and ended up in the dressing room for the supermodels at a fashion show.

“Oh Miranda-Senpai! Caliche-Senpai! Thank you very much for your coming.” Seina, who saw the two of them ran over to them like a rabbit. He seemed pleased that they had come but also …

“Seina, are you ok ...”

“Yes!”

“Well now I see why Kenneth was crying.”

“I also wanted to switch my support over to Professor Seiryo for a moment ...” Miranda said half laughing but her eyes were serious.

“Huh! ... ... oh that ... ... did you run into Kenneth?”

“They're waiting for us outside, so please go out there and make up with them.” Miranda hit Seina's back and pushed him towards the corridor. Seina left the room.

“Thank you, Seina was a bit depressed,” Kiriko, who was looking at the situation silently, approached Miranda.

“No problem. Hey Kiriko, can I ask you a question?”

“Sure, what?”

“How would you describe your relationship with Seina?”

“Ah!?”

Surprisingly, none of Kiriko's group could respond quickly to that question. Even though they just had to say that they were Seina's ship's crew, they were puzzled for a moment.

Normally, they just had to say that they were part of his ship's crew, but they froze for a second.
Surprisingly, Kiriko and the others were not able to reply instantly.
"All of you, what is your relationship with Seina?"
"!?"

“Ah ... I'm sorry, that was a strange question, never mind, please forget we asked, we have to get back to our seats.” Miranda and Caliche who saw that things had grown awkward gave the GP salute and left the dressing room.

Seina was outside and confirmed the situation with them when they came out, they left with Kenneth and Rajau. Seina went back to the waiting room in a good mood.

“... ... What happened?” Seina asked Kiriko who seemed too embarrassed by this question to answer.

All the members of Kiriko's team started blinking at once and deflected their eyes at the same time when they realized what had caused Kenneth and Rajau to be mad at him.

“Huh?”

“Seina, it’s about time. Please come to the stage.” Seto's monitor appeared with exquisite timing in front of Seina. It felt like she was watching things up to that point. Seto smiled until she noticed Kiriko staring daggers at her at. Of course, Seina didn't notice a thing.

“Ok, I'm going.” Seina headed towards the transfer gate with a bold look on his face.

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After Seina was transferred, silence returned to the room until Amane broke it. Of course, the others were still frozen up from being asked how they felt about Seina.

“—— I love Seina.”

And it seemed that Miranda knew that all too well. Of course, there was a vulnerability in admitting it out loud. From those who had strong feelings like Kiriko and Gyokuren, they were still preparing their minds to say it. But when they were made aware of that thought, there was no turning back.

“Well, what about y'all?”

“Even if you can say it so easily you can't expect us to!”

It was easy to choose to have Seina paired with multiple women. In terms of the age in space, there weren't many who could stand only having a single partner for the rest of their lives, and as long as the relationship between their families was strengthened during the couple's long life, choosing other partners wasn't uncommon. As a result, both men and women often had multiple partners. However, the bonds were formed over a long time, and it was rare for things to take that form from the beginning. Usually, it was one on one or three people at most.

“... ... Well, Seina is still a minor and there is no need to come to a conclusion at this point.”

“In my case, I just unfroze my growth, so it'll take ten years to become a reasonable age to even think of such a thing, and Fuku-chan is still a baby.”

“Mia!”

“... ... Will Fuku also be in the picture?” Everyone looked at Fuku.

“Oh, Fuku-chan is already set to be partnered with big brother Seina. She was meant to be from birth.”

“Mia!” Fuku proudly said.

“... ... Fuku. Do you understand the meaning of Neiju's words?”

“... ... ... Miau?” Fuku thought for a moment and looked up at Neiju with a strange look.

“Ahahhaha!” Kiriko unexpectedly cracked up and the waiting room was soon surrounded by a laughter.

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On the battlefield, the opening show had begun several hours ago. Groups of singers and fireworks and dancers filled the venue. The profiles of Seina and Seiryo were introduced with a flashy video to hype up the crowd. The battle scenes of the Kamidake which were safe to release were displayed too. Just a little snippet of the battle with the Big Da Ruma, the light Hawk Wings

scenes were all edited out. But it was still a spectacular sight combined with stunning editing and background music, the audience's excitement was high.

“And now we will start the fight! From the GP Academy, Seina Yamada; from the pirates of the Da Ruma Guild, Seiryo Tennan!” The announcement sounded, and the hostage, Da Ruma, was slowly wheeled out like a prize to a big round of applause.

“Both of them will now enter!”

The gate shutter rose, Seiryo appeared slowly from the darkness. With a relaxed look, he waved to the large crowd and went to the pier. However, most of the audience was booing him. Not because he was a pirate but because he was a Tennan.

“Huhuhuhuhu!”

But for Seiryo it was business as usual. He walked in slowly with a big smile despite the abusive cheers.

Then the gate on the other side opened, in contrast with Seiryo, Seina came out a bit awkwardly. Of course, cheers and encouragement were being sent from the audience. Some of them booed, but that's because they were members of Kiriko and Amane's fan club.

Both opponents met in the center.

“You can't escape me now Seina Yamada!”

“Ah ... Seiryo sensei, it's been a long time.”

“Yeah! Your stupid greetings are useless! I will strike you down and get the president back!” Seiryo said pointing to Da Ruma.

—— Start!

The curtain of on the stage opened accordingly, several stage apparatuses rose up all directions, and a stage background emerged in the center.

“Is this ...?!” Seiryo's face turned pale.”

“... ... Tenchi-senpai's ... ... house?” The background was a faithfully reproduced veranda from the Masaki family's home.

“But why ...?” Seina looked at it confused, till he noticed Seiryo laughing. It was an angry laugh.

“Huhufufu ... ... Pitiful, Seina Yamada. Do you think this will give you the upper hand?”

“… …Yes?” Seina didn't know what he meant and tilted his head.

“You can't break my concentration with such a stage ... ... I won't lose!”

“I don't really understand what you mean by that, but ok ...”

“Shut up! I will defeat you!”

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“Ho ho ho, I heard Professor Seiryo went to the Masaki family of Earth's house to become the fiancée of Ayeka, wasn't he beaten by Tenchi?”

“To be more exact, he was defeated by Mihoshi.”

“Why would anyone want Seiryo to be Ayeka's fiancé?”

“In a sense, it was just a ceremonial trial to test Tenchi, the Emperor had other candidates he favored, but he thought it would be better to put forward an easy one first.”

“Ho ho ho, and what if he had won?”

“Well, everything is satisfactory about him except his personality.”

“I think that's the most important thing though, ho ho ho.”

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“... ... In honor of the Jurai princess, my fiancé’s honor, I headed to the Earth with the Juraian Emperor, Funaho, and Misaki ... ...”

Seiryo's story felt like it went on for about 30 minutes. But since it was full of things that were top secret it was actively censored here and there. However ... ...

(I see ... when I came to the Academy, Airi said that Tenchi senpai and Mr. Seiryo had battled together ... I get it now.) Seina finally understood what was going on with the stage.

“Fight the boy already!” Komachi cried out from the audience.

“Ah, Komachi, nice to see you. It's been a while.”

“I know he's being a pain, but it took us along time to get here and he's had very little rest.”

“Well, ok, but ... ... oh wow, there seems to be a lot of people I know up here.”

Near Komachi, were special seats reserved for those familiar with Seina such as Kenneth, Rajau, Miranda and Caliche.

“Look ... I can't say I'm not a little upset over the capture of the Big Da Ruma.”

“Sorry about that.”

“But I'm not going to hold a grudge over it though ... I know he's obnoxious but humor him a bit.”

“OK, I'll keep that in mind. Thank you.”

Nearby her was Onnainin. “Seina, it's been a long time.”

“Oh! I'm sorry for the inconvenience I caused when you brought me here.”

His ship had been destroyed when Seina first came to the GP.

“No, no, I am honored to have had the honor of being the one to bring you out into space in the first place. It was a good experience and, thanks to it my career has thrived. I've been assigned to a squadron class transport fleet.”

The experience with Seina had also given Onnainin great confidence. Considering the fear and confusion he faced at that time, few things were now scary enough to move him to panic.

“That's good.”

“Please do your best today.”

“Seina-chan, Seina-chan.” Mitoto came out from behind Onnainin. “Seina did you also come to see the duel?”

“... ... uhm, no, I'm in it.”

“Oh wow ... ... Really?” Mitoto was the same as usual.

“Seina-chan,” Tennyo, Hakuryo, Miki's father, and Raireza, who was holding hands with Hiroshi all called out to him. Of course, so did Kenneth and Rajau, Miranda and Caliche. The clerk and Nanami, who he met at the lingerie shop spending his first paycheck at the lingerie shop at the time of his first monthly salary. Tatsuki Koyuki, the owner of the shop that sold him the pearls was with a young man.

“Leave it to us if you get injured.” The doctor and nurse from the hospital where he was hospitalized when he encountered the Daedalus was there. He was oddly glad about this.

Seina hadn't met them before but Ian Northern and Kururuka Pan Dora were also there.

Of course, Kiriko and Hakuren and others were also there, including Maya.

Seina thanked everyone for coming and bowed deeply.

“... ... That's why, so to speak, this place is also a place of revenge for me! My power comes from the anger that burns within me. I won’t hold back! Ahahahahahaha!” Meanwhile Seiryo's monologue continued. Most people had used it as an opportunity for a bathroom break or to get refreshments and hadn't heard any of Seiryo's story.

“... ... That means only one thing! That means you are going to lose Seina Yamada!” Seiryo pointed his baton at Seina and finally noticed that Seina and the audience hadn't heard his speech. “Good! ... ... Hey you guys! Listen carefully to people when there talking to you!”

“Oh ... I'm sorry.” Seina quickly left the audience seats and again faced the Seiryo in the middle of the stage. The audience also returned to their seats.

“Alright, since you wasted my time and effort ... ...” A spotlight was suddenly put on Seiryo. “With this victory I'll expose you as the culprits of evil you are, and I will cut off the chains of evil that destiny has put on me!”

Ding ding.

“Defeat Seiryo!”

“We've been waiting! Show that idiot whose boss!”

Along with ding, people thew celebratory items from the seats. Empty cans and garbage were also thrown at the same time. Mainly garbage was thrown towards Seiryo, even some raw banana peels and raw eggs went his way, Seiryo was euphoric and didn't care.

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“Shit ... ... The play is wonderful, but I hope it has a good ending.” Makihi joined Seto and was doing her best to hold back her laughter.

“Well, that's the Tennan family for you ... they sure are entertaining ...” Contrary to her words, Seto's face was serious.

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Seiryo pointed his baton at Seina.

“Oh!” The tension rose instantly. However, as Seina moved to fight, he stepped on a banana peel and tripped. For a moment he was worried that Seiryo had already hit him.

“Yaaaah!” Seiryo ran like a gust of wind towards Seina.

“Gaah!” Seina tried to get up quickly– – Seiryo stood at the top of the stairs and slashed at him. When Seina tried to get up again his leg slipped, and his body twisted.

“Oh!?” The two slashed at each other. And the next moment, the venue, which had been silent, was wrapped in a burst of screams and laughter.

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“Ahahahahaha!” Unusually in that moment, Makihi didn't care about her appearance, she was belly laughing.

“Uhuhuhuh ... ...This is a masterpiece.”

“Why do I feel like something like this could only happen in a battle with Seina?”

“Ho ho, oh wow. Should I end things here? Or should I let it go on for a while longer?”

Seina's shock baton had stabbed Seiryo's trousers, and the twisting motion caused his trousers to be undone revealing his underwear. The only thing he had on under his pants was a cloth.

“Oh wow, he has on a fundoshi like the sumo wrestlers of earth.”

“... ... Regardless of what happens next, he seems to have lost this battle.”

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Seiryo was frozen. He couldn't tolerate the shame of exposing his lower half while such a large crowd was watching.

“uhuhuhuhuhuhuh Ha ha ha! Ehehehehehe a Ha ha ha ha ha!” Amane cracked up.

Gyokuren was staring straight at the sight, but the other women closed their eyes in disgust.

“Cleanup crew! Please dispose of the trash on stage immediately!” An announcer screamed. The GP cleaning team rushed onto the platform, pushed Seiryo into a bag, and put it in a high density sealed small armored container, before violently carrying it away.

“Victory goes to Seina Yamada!” Seto announced.

The audience gave a big cheer among the bursts of laughter and applause and the battle ended. The monitors which had broadcast the event displayed the following: We apologize for having broadcast such an unsightly occurrence.

“What a hoax that was!” Taima said, while frustratedly sitting at a round table. “I'd expect the Devil Princess of Jurai to carry out such a farce, but to have the GP and academy also involved...” While he said that the executives surrounding him were laughing.

“Wow, I can't believe the problem of the good luck ships was ended all at once by a single student with a silly toy!”

“Hmm, I see why he's such a threat now.”

“We need to act now! What is the status of things?”

“We're going to need some more time. I didn't think the problem with the Kamidake would be dealt with so quickly. I have to make sure that Mikami doesn't catch wind of our plan.”

“The Daedalus’ refurbishment has already been completed. The technology that the Academy offered was highly functional. The new Daedalus is extremely practical and versatile, even in its basic form it can win a fight with Jurai, if we can add the Kamidake's technology in there, we won't even need to be afraid of royal ships!”

“As soon as the project is finished, we will showcase the prototype ship as a new ship for the military, and then we will launch a great annihilation fleet based at the remaining hostile pirate Guilds using information provided by Tarrant.”

“Tarrant can then gather the remnants and organize the guilds and become a new threat to the federation ...”

“Is there any guarantee that he won't mass produce the Kamidake?” Nakita who had been silent until then voiced his own concern.

“Look at the facts! He had the plans for the Daedalus, even though it was made for mass production, he only let himself have one because he was afraid that others might have the same power as him. It'll be the same with the Kamidake.” Taima said a bit sullen.

“I'll prepare a fleet disguised as a Space Pirates for when we need to fake an attack.” In their planned scenario they would pretend that the army was taken over by Space Pirates while they transported the Kamidake. Although it was out of the ordinary it was also a common scenario.

“No, wait! I have another plan to get the Kamidake, we should avoid acts that imply failure on the part of the army.”

“I agree... However … …”

“I have more interesting news from Tarrant than whatever you're going to speak about.” Taima proudly launched a monitor.

“This is Airi's secretary, surely you know she's now a crew member on the Kamidake ... ...”

“She's Ryoko Balta!?”

The executives were amazed as they looked at the monitor. What they saw was an image that showed Erma transforming into Ryoko.

“Ryoko is a spy from the Da Ruma Guild who has transformation abilities, but she defected to the academy and took on this identity for protection.”

“... ... I see, do you think we can get her to betray the Academy again?”

“If we made it known that a spy was knowingly made Airi's Secretary and she also made her a crew member for the Kamidake... Well, Airi and Mikami will be in a lot of trouble uhuhuhuhu.” Taima had a satisfied smile on his face.

Even if it wasn't true, it was easy to push the baseless accusation. Luckily the Galactic Federation had people more than willing to believe such a thing. Many people would love for Airi to disappear from the political situation so they could gain her power.

* * * **Translators’ note: This is where episode 22 ends in the anime. * * ***

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“I can't believe Seina Yamada! I won't let him get away with humiliating me like this.” Seiryo was bright red and angry, Komachi was trying not to laugh.

“How can you be okay with this!? What about recovering the president and reviving Guild?”

“... ... I met with Da Ruma a while ago.”

“What!?”

“He doesn't feel like rebuilding the guild anymore. The loss of the Big Da Ruma was it for him, he has given up on it and wants to find a new start for himself.”

“But even so ... I won't give up.” Seiryo clenched his fist and looked up to the sky.

“... ... How about changing clothes for the time being?” A towel was wrapped around his lower body.

“Yeah! So, what if there's some set back to our plans! I still have the Unko! As long as there is an Unko, I, Seiryo Tennan will be the delegate of the Da Ruma Guild!”

Suddenly he got a call from Barry. A monitor started up.

“Oh good! I finally got a hold of you. Sorry, communication restrictions kept me from reaching you sooner.”

“Oh! What perfect timing, I was just talking about the Unko. Please prepare for departure and wait for my return!”

“Uhm about that ... ...”

“What about it! Hey where is Alan?” Komachi realized that he was missing.

“I don't know how, but Alan took off his collar and lost a lot at the casino and just went missing.”

“What! Wait the casino? What happened to the ship!?”

“... ... We had to sign over ownership...”

“That! ... That Idiot!”

“How did they let such a thing happen?”

“Because he lost it at the casino, the bet was accepted as legitimate, there were formal papers ...”

“... I see ... ... I understand.” Surprisingly Komachi regained her calm attitude.

“But wait, why are you still on the ship?”

“The new owner took over our debts and now we are working for her. She also hired all the rest of the crew.”

“Okay ... is she paying you well?”

“Yes. We have an official contract ... ... Although my salary is a bit low, it is not bad when you consider the perks.”

“... ... Is that so... well that's good to hear.” Komachi's facial expression was relaxed.

“Sorry ... if we had only paid more attention to him ... ...”

“I don't mind. It worked out for you. I wish you the best of luck.”

“Yes. Thank you for everything!” Barry and Cohen cried a bit at Komachi's compassion and cut off communication with the highest level of gratitude.

“... Did you hear that?” Komachi looked back at Seiryo who had turned pale.

“... ... It's over ... everything's gone.” Seiryo murmured as he collapsed into his seat.

Chapter Nine: Every Day is Just the Calm Before the Storm

*** * * Translators' note: Start of Episode 23. * * ***

After the battle, Seina returned to the GP academy and things were like when he started. Today he was training at the Package Sorting Office.

"I haven't done something like this in a long time."

"Oh, it seems that this kind of work is unsatisfactory for Seina. Are you upset that there's no opponent to take down?"

"Both are important tasks, and to be honest, I'm more relieved that there isn't." Seina smiled and made an error.

"Oh no, I made a mistake." Seina, who saw that the package was placed in the wrong section, paused the conveyor and tried to move the package to a different route. But the conveyor didn't stop, and the packages flowed in front of Seina.

"Ah! It's over there...!!" He tried to reach it, but his sleeve got caught on the end of the conveyor, Seina was dragged into a tunnel.

"Huh, Seina!"

"Why didn't the sensor detect him!? Stop the conveyor! Emergency stop!"

The inspector who noticed the commotion quickly performed an emergency stop and Seina escaped from the situation which had him half lodged in the tunnel.

"Boy, no matter where you work your bad luck just doesn't change."

"Isn't that the truth!" Kenneth and Rajau laughed.

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Airi and Nakita were sitting opposite each other in the GP Academy Chairman's Office.

"... ... And what is your request?"

"It's about the Kamidake's treatment. I'll put it straightforwardly, I think that the Kamidake's place is in the GP army not the police ... After destroying the Big Da Ruma, the leadership feels it is time to take extreme actions to strengthening our arms. The damage the lucky ships have caused must also be restored."

"So where does the army come in?"

"Pirate assassination is essentially our field of work."

"At this time, I want to knock off the rest of the Space Pirates entirely ... but it's the Galactic Federation's decision, I have no say in it ..."

“Even so, we need a watchdog to keep them in line, with the Kamidake the army will be able to keep them in check.”

“Nevertheless, I don't want to hand it over ... ... not because of the militaries behavior or anything.”

“It's already been decided.” Nakita said quietly, but in a firm voice.

“… … I see.”

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“It not often that I see you with an injury of this degree, it's usually worse.”

Seina was in the medical office being treated by a female doctor. “Hahaha ... ... I'm used to it ... ...!”

”Aren't you the one who took down the Da Ruma Guild?” The female doctor's hand gripped Seina's gently and she pulled her body onto his. Looking closely her outfit had been left in a revealing state and she had on far more makeup then was standard. He knew that this wasn't up to standard. The girl had a relaxing air like Kiriko’s but was an attractive person with a strong atmosphere.

“Uhm excuse me……?”

“Hey Seina, do you dislike older women? I can cure you whenever you get hurt, I can even nurse you back to health.”

“Oh, well thank you very much, and if there is anything else I'll let you know.”

“Uuunnn! Hey, Seina!”

He shook himself out of the doctor’s grip and jumped out into the corridor. Kenneth and Rajau were watching him with a grin.

“Nice going Seina.”

“If you were watching, why didn't you help me, Kenneth? Rajau, you said that you helped me ...”

“Seina you're the star of the GP, the leadership thinks you show promising talent. You’re just going to have to learn how to deal with things like this in the future.”

“Oh... yeah! We won't always be there to help.”

“You were there now, weren't you?”

“I don't want to be known for treating women badly. I especially don't want to be on the bad side of that female. She's the one in charge of many things around here.”

“Oh yeah! Don't worry, we can still see if we can have Miranda senpai help with this.” Since their reunion, Kenneth frequently contacted Miranda and Caliche.

“... ... It's a blessed friendship.”

“There's no need for that .... She’ll just tell everyone in the class and that will be even more of a mess.”

“Is that so?! You know we heard you went to Imuim with Professor Kiriko?”

“I told them I wanted to take you with me, but there were problems with the capacity. Only the Kamidake's crew could come, it won't happen next time. Besides Kenneth, you were in training and couldn't come any way.”

“Damn! And we had no luck the entire time we were there ...” Their peeping efforts were not successful at the branch office orbiting Earth.

“Oh well, it was OK if you called me, and with Seto there you wouldn't even have been able to enjoy Imuim because of her presence.”

Seina breathed a sigh of relief. Everyone in the class knew that Seto was with him, they just wanted something to be angry about.

“However, Gyokuren was there, and we all know how that probably went...”

“Please keep silent about that, I don't want anyone giving me a hard time over it.”

“... Fine.”

* * * **Translators’ note: In the afterword extra, which I'm not translating, it's revealed that they didn't keep it quiet and so he had to give an interview explaining the Imuim trip to the fan clubs. * * ***

*** * * Editor’s note: I translated it, my anal retention demanded it! And the translator was right! * * ***

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“... ... So, the decision has already been made?”

“If it’s a command from above, it can't be helped. But I think that the capabilities of the Kamidake alone classifies it as unfit for the decoy division.”

After all, the Kamidake was made to do battle with Space Pirates and was unable to cooperate with other decoy units. For that reason alone, it was always deployed independently.

“However, the Captain, Yamada Seina is still a student, and the Kamidake is still immature.”

“So, isn't education necessary at such an early stage? Most combat experiences are similar to what it would see in the army.”

“... ... It sure is wonderful right?”

The power of the Kamidake was amazing. The power it wielded required great personal judgment from its commander. That was why as long as an organization controlled it strict observation was important. However, Airi, as a member of the academy, felt a bit dissatisfied with this situation.

“But the Kamidake's power is dangerous if it's misused or worse be allowed to go out of control.”

“I'd like to avoid any unnecessary confrontation with you. With respect to the operation of the Kamidake, we're planning to operate it after consultation with you, that's why I came here in advance today.”

“Please do so carefully.”

“Formal notice will arrive from the Galactic Federation tomorrow, at that time I would appreciate your favor.”

“I understand.” He raised a salute to Mikami who had been holding tea silently for what felt like the whole morning. He didn't even try to salute Airi. Nakita headed for the transfer gate.

“... ... So, the time has finally come.” Mikami said with a sigh after Nakita left.

* * * **Translators’ note: The dinosaur scene from the anime is missing, probably was a Nabeshin filler add in. * * ***

“Why!?” Amane hit the table with great strength.

Kiriko's group was invited to Airi's private house downstairs from the office room of the Chairman's office. This wasn't an official meeting with her as the chief director, although it was a private area, she still used it when talking about things politically important.

“Why should I give the Kamidake to the army!?”

“The document is formal; we can't refuse them if they issue this.”

Before Amane's eyes, appeared not only the monitor but also the request which was printed on paper and signed by hand.

“Oh... ...!” As soon as Amane saw it, she sat down on the sofa.

“But Mizuki is in the Kamidake ...” Kiriko continued Amane's outrage.

“We're transferring only the Kamidake, I won't hand over your personally owned royal ship.”

“If that's so then the Kamidake is owned by Seina! That was transferred from Washu ... ...”

“I'm sorry, but that's not the case.”

“What!?” everyone looked at Airi all at once.

“There are omissions in its initial registration that were made by Jurai. The Kamidake is treated as a renovation of the first Kamidake ... that is to say, on paper it's supposed to be a ship made by the GP.”

“Why did they do that!?”

“Because of all the troubles that come with admitting how it was made.”

“UGHHHHHH! I'll change it then!” Kiriko regretted her complacency.

“... ... then, please proceed to change the name!”

“Even so, it won't be recognized immediately, and it would be difficult to prove that the Kamidake is not a refurbishment of the former spacecraft.”

“If you show the waste records and survey data from the previous aircraft ... ...”

“Because it was a ship planned to be Jurai's next main flagship, it was handled in confidentiality and that information can't be divulged to the military.”

“What about Fuku-chan? She won’t accept the authority of anyone other than Seina.” Kiriko put forward the best reason she had. The military would treat her like a machine part. It most likely wouldn't work any better than before Kiriko built the subsystem. Of course, it wouldn't have been an issue if Fuku was mentally mature, but it was cruel to force a young Fuku into such a situation now. It was like trying to put a kindergartner in the military. And if by chance, she tried to escape like before, she would be charged with the crime of desertion.

“It is only the hull that's being handed over to the army, they plan to use the subsystem controls built by Kiriko-chan. If they need to, they will convene your team together.”

“... Well maybe that isn't so bad.” Kiriko was beginning to feel like Airi contacting them over such a non-issue was a sign that something was up.

“... So, is the real reason it’s being taken to investigate the Kamidake? Is it not only the army but also the Galactic Federation, GP, and Jurai, are they responsible too?”

“What do you mean Kiriko?” Amane looked at Kiriko surprised.

“Everyone here knows that the Kamidake was created by Washu, but Washu-sama's survival hasn't been officially released yet, so the Kamidake itself isn't officially known to be made by her.” Kiriko said as she looked at Airi.

“Well, since it was originally a privately owned ship, it was unknown where it came from.” Airi enjoyed accepting Kiriko's question.

“But after the unbelievable fighting power you showed against the Big Da Ruma ... ... It's only natural others want to examine it regardless of it supposed origin.”

“Its power is comparable to Jurai's royals ships, of course they do.”

“But royal ships are handled with top secrecy by Jurai ... ... but the GP owns the Kamidake.”

“ ... It's natural that they want to investigate the technology.”

“But Kiriko, they could have just done so with it here, so why haven't they?” Neiju added.

“That's a good question……”

“Everyone quit making such scary faces.” Seto, who had been listening silently till then, breathed a sigh.

“As Kiriko's guessed, the investigation of the Kamidake is their primary objective. What did you expect after it showed such power?

“If I knew that was going to happen, we'd never have fought it!”

“I'm not surprised, we've received requests to examine the Royal Trees in the past, but we've denied them every time.”

Of course, each time Jurai rejected the request in a way that was nearly a threat. The Royal Trees had free will, so at least in Jurai they had human rights. That's why if Royal Trees refused to disclose information, it couldn't be forced. They were able to make threats because the Trees had such irreconcilable power that it was possible to destroy the Galactic Federation entirely if they did something to bring it to want to enact such violence. Technically the Trees were originally Jurai's indigenous people, not the Juraians.

“The Academy has problems of its own.” Airi said.

“Washu-san's technology is a ridiculous powder keg, many people want to know about that technology ... they're swarming like piranha, and the investigation requires the formation of teams and it's a big challenge for anyone to take the initiative. Those with strong sponsors are the easiest to get organized.”

“Well ... ... Of course, it'd be a problem if it was led by Seniwa or any of the other countries.” Amane looked at Mikami quickly. Mikami smiled silently and affirmed the opinion.

“... But, it’s okay to have it lead by the Galactic Federation?”

“That's right, but ... the leaders of the current Galactic Federation have no idea what's going on, especially not with Washu.” Airi diverted her line of sight with a wry smile.

“Indeed ... ... that's why we don't want them to be the ones conducting the investigation.”

If it was confirmed to be made by Washu's hands, the retaliation would be horrible.

“I don't care, I just don't want the military to take it away.”

“The situation is touchy. We can't risk fighting with the military right now.”

“So, you're just going to let Fuku be as a political tool!?”

“Yes, I'm afraid I have to.” Seto remarked coldly.

“Airi-sama! Fuku-chan is Washu-sama's daughter ... well ... you said ...”

“How can you let this happen ... Are you really just going to stand by and do nothing Airi-sama?” Said Neiju as she stood.

“That's right.” Although it was expected, Kiriko was shocked to hear such a blunt answer.

“How can you say that ...?”

“As soon as we separate the Mizuki unit from the Kamidake we will transport it... you have until then to take care of any business you have with it.” Airi said to Amane cryptically.

“… … I understand.”

Kiriko glanced at Airi and Seto and left the room.

“Hey, wait! I'm coming with you!” Amane chased after Kiriko, only Neiju remained in the room.

“I know what being subject to politics is like, but I don't care right now. I'm going to act as an individual, I act as Neiju now.”

“Don't you think you should go catch up with Kiriko?” Seto turned her head to Neiju.

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Together with Hakuren’s team, Kiriko and the others started the removal of the Mizuki Unit and the re-registration of the Kamidake in Airi's dock that stored the Kamidake.

“We've completed the transfer of Kamidake's subspace residential district and warehouse to Mizuki.... Let's improve the controls for the subsystem as much as possible before the army arrives, we need to buy a little time.”

Even if Fuku wasn't a part of it, if they could make it have reasonable performance, then they wouldn't need to borrow Fuku in the future. In any case, Kamidake wasn't something that could be so easily analyzed.

“How's the registration change for the Kamidake?”

“Thanks to what Washu taught us I should be done ... ... Now! The application has been accepted!” A sigh of relief leaked out from all of them when they heard Karen's report.

“How long will it take to get permission to rewrite the registration?”

“The scheduled time is ... 36 hours.”

“36 hours? That's a bit long, isn't it?”

“I think it's probably intentional.” Kiriko felt a bit daunted.

* * * **Translators’ note: The changes in this from the anime are all plot hole filling ones, it makes no sense to take Fuku if she is an AI in the novels since they've clarified they have human rights. It also makes no sense for the ship to be a GP ship because it uses the old Kamidake’s parts... because it was all ready to go the second that the damaged ship made it to Jurai. This was a bit of a plot hole in the anime that no one noticed.** * * *

“Oh wow, the registration application has passed already, ho ho ho.” Mikami who was monitoring Kiriko's activity seemed to be having fun. She looked like a mother watching her children's mischief.

“Washu-chan sure has a soft spot for Seina.”

“If we certify its use of patents, then they'll have to recognize it as privately owned.” For any product, a list of used patents is registered in the tag and embedded. If you checked on what kind of patent was used and who was allowed to use it by checking the access code and disclosure code into that tag, it would be solid evidence that it was the private property of Seina.

“The patent that was used is used only for The Kamidake, and it only had permission for use by Seina, it will be impossible to deny it.”

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“Hehe ... ... if this works, they'll have to take it illegally by force to move forward.”

“... ... Kiriko-chan, is doing her best, but it still seems like her attempts at resistance will be useless.”

”I wish I could help ... ... But I'm not one for cloak and dagger antics, uhuhuhuhuhu. But you don't you mind at all, do you Seto? Ho ho ho.”

“If it works, you get to claim someone else as the bad guy. Regardless I'm on the side of Seina and Fuku.” Seto said.

“You look happy.” Airi said.

“Don't act like you aren't also going rouge by telling them, Airi. You're getting better at it, but you need better timing, that's half the battle.”

“Whatever you say boss.”

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“When this is done, let's change the processing order by accessing the office processing computer.”

“You know that's illegal right?”

“I won't force you.”

Erma turned into Ryoko suddenly. “Did you forget? I'm a Space Pirate.” She smiled and began working on it.

* * * **Translators’ note: This scene is in the anime like this but makes no sense there because Ryoko isn't running around as Erma and this is just a random, ‘Oh look, it's ‘Erma’ scene. * * ***

“Minaho are you ready?” Seto asked.

“Deployment is completed, we can make our move at any time.”

“If the Kamidake is brought to the coordinates we predicted, then there's no doubt that it's the location of Tarrant's home base. Our primary goal is to rescue Miki Steinbeck, detain Tarrant, and retrieve the Kamidake. Worst case scenario if it's too difficult to retrieve it, its destruction will be permitted. Please do your best!”

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“... Was it possible to change the hull registration time?” Amane asked.

“No, it was useless .... An AI kept preventing it.” Kiriko looked tired and leaned against the chair.

“But in two days the name change will go through, and they'll have to return it to us, isn't that enough?”

“I'm not so optimistic, I doubt it will be returned so soon, we might even lose it forever.”

“No way! What gives you that idea?”

“They might act like we voluntarily turned it over to them. In any case, I don't think we'll get it back until they've managed to do some investigation on it ...” Kiriko breathed a small sigh and looked around.

“Where are Ms. Neiju and Fuku?”

“I didn't want to bore them. Seina is back home, so I had them returned to my house with Karen.”

“Oh, that's right ... ... I still need to explain this situation to Seina ...”

“Kiriko-sama! The Army is here!”

The external monitor showed warships jumping out one after another around the dock, and the circumference was surrounded in a few minutes.

“The GP military will be taking the Kamidake immediately. Please hand it over immediately.” An officer displayed documents issued by the Galactic Federation.

“The Kamidake's crew will be under our supervision until we're done. Stay where you are and don't move.” The military stormed into the control room and turned their guns on Kiriko.

“Hey! What are you doing!?”

“Don't move! We're authorized to shoot to kill if you resist.” The muzzle remained oriented towards Kiriko.

“Isn't this a bit much for taking the Kamidake?”

“You didn't expect us to just stand by while you illegally hacked the registration system, do you?”

“Oh!?” Kiriko was silenced.

“If you don't resist, then there'll be no need for things to get rough.”

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Neiju, who came home to Amane's penthouse, embraced Fuku and went out to the terrace. The sea breeze was comfortable, and it was very relaxing.

“Huaaaaaaaaaaaa ...” She yawned. “I hope big brother comes back soon.”

“Miah?” Fuku turned to face the garden and noticed a carrot rolling there. “Miaa .....!” She jumped out of Neiju 's arms and ran after the carrot.

“Stop! Fuku!”

Neiju immediately felt something was unnatural. She stopped Fuku but the next moment, the area about a meter past Fuku was enveloped in a time freezing barrier. (I sense evil!) She felt the air pressure change and felt a light shock as something pressed up against her neck and threw herself forward. She felt like she had just avoided an attack meant to make her faint but couldn't look back to confirm it. But that small action resulted in a big advantage as things started to happen.

“Ms. Neiju!” Karen immediately felt a strange feeling, she sensed the enemies lurking around her in camouflage, and attacked without hesitation.

“Gaah!” This forced them out of hiding.

“Freeze!” Karen, who confirmed that the muzzle of the gun of the now camouflage-free enemy was directed at Neiju, quickly stopped her resistance and she received a blow from enemy in the back of the head and fell where she stood.

“Check if Seina Yamada is here, seal the entrance and all exits!”

“You bitch! You killed him!” That was probably in reference to the man who was attacked by Karen earlier, who pointed a muzzle at Karen.

“Don't act against a subordinate of the Devil Princess if you can’t stand to face retaliation!”

“Huh!?” The man who was standing up quickly raised the muzzle of his gun from her. The “Retaliation of a subordinate of the Devil Princess” was a kind of urban legend. Fear of terrorism and illegal activities, and retaliatory warfare created such a legend. There was no limit to the number of organizations that have been annihilated by Seto's information network, which was said to be the best at gathering intelligence, and their fighting power was legendary too. They showed no mercy when it came to illegal trickery. So, in response to people who carried out illegal activities they were known to be harbingers of death.

– – – ding dong. At that time, the chime indicating Seina was coming home came from the entrance, the men immediately took Fuku and started withdrawing.

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Shortly before that, Seina was on the elevator heading for Amane's home with NB.

“Wow, that must have been a dangerous job, you have lots of bruises.”

“But the courier business is fun because there’s no one to fight, I was able to make it through a long training session and have plenty of stories to tell.”

“Well, that sure sounds like fun Master ... ... oh!” When the elevator passed a certain point, NB went silent.

“What's wrong?”

“Something has happened, I sense a wireless blockade!” NB said. Seina readied for the worst.

“Master, is anyone waiting for you upstairs?”

“Neiju-chan should be up there!”

“I understand, but for now we shouldn't go rushing in to save them.” NB said with a serious tone. Seina gave up on persuading it. For now, he could ensure his safety, but for Neiju it might already be too late. Of course, he could have been wrong about that but there was no way for him to know.

“I understand.” Seina had no intention of launching an assault. He could sense something wrong in the atmosphere. He activated a special Guardian System which he had been given. It wasn't suitable for combat, but it was perfect for protecting himself.

He got out of elevator while examining the situation. He cautiously approached the entrance.

“It seems like all the alarm systems have been taken over. A dummy signal is being sent to the outside and Master's communication system is obstructed.” NB attached a terminal to the wall, he began looking at the state of the inside. NB detected the sound as Karen was knocked down.

“Oh!” Seina felt something, he pressed the intercom switch.

– – – Bing bong.

“... It seems that they've started withdrawing.”

“Let's go!” Seina went inside. As he opened the front door and slid in. When he felt that there was no dangerous atmosphere and checked for signs of intruders inside, he came running to check on the girls.

“Neiju, Karen!?”

Seina saw Karen collapsed beside Neiju. She was bleeding.

“I'm okay, I'm just stunned, Fuku-chan needs your help!”

A slight fluctuation blur appeared in the sky where Neiju pointed. It was a flying ship disappearing in camouflage. Even with his Bio - Enhanced vision it was totally undetectable unless he looked carefully.

(Perhaps Neiju wouldn't have noticed it unless she had been taught to.)

“Please help Karen!”

“You don't have much time, Master!”

Seina started running like a rabbit. He and NB jumped into the small ship that Kiriko borrowed from Airi, which was on the way up the stairs.

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Although the Kamidake had already been taken by the military, Kiriko's detention continued. Moreover, each girl was isolated in a separate room individually under the supervision of the military.

[Karen! Karen! ... ... No, she hasn't returned to consciousness yet.] Kiriko, whose normal communication was blocked, was conducting secret communication with Hakuren and the others. Although there was some interference, it wasn't enough to inconvenience her hearing.

[Kiriko-sama, Seto is trying to get in touch with you. Apparently, there is a privacy block on the communication network.]

[Amane's house has no abnormal readings coming from it, but I think that a communications block and camouflage are probably being done on it. I can't get in touch with the entrance staff of the apartment.]

They were completely isolated.

[How about you? If we were alone, it would be possible to escape from here, but ...]

[The enemies are surrounding us, we can't do anything. And if I resist, who knows what will happen with Amane and Ryoko ... I need to find out what's going on ... and I can't move until I know how Neiju and Karen are doing.]

[There's something behind this other than a survey of the Kamidake.] It was a divide and conquer situation. The information that was blocked was being monitored by Seto. But no gaps in the communication block were found at all, so it wasn't possible to do anything for Kiriko.

[There's no choice but to have this situation play out for a while.]

“Seto-sama! I have word from the staff at the entrance to Amane's apartment. It seems that Fuku has been taken away in an attack by the military.”

An emergency communication came from Minaho which boiled Kiriko's blood.

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“This is Nakita! It's done!” This situation was also a bit unexpected for Seto.

“I'm sorry. It seems that a military spy had gotten a job at the entrance of Amane's apartment. They said that the majority of their facilities were disabled.”

“Nakita ... ... You don't have to work so hard at pretending like you didn't know right now ... ... Have you recovered Fuku-chan yet?” After all, she didn't want to put Fuku in danger or to upset Seina. “Not that it matters. No matter what happens I'll just be seen as a crusty old hag.” In other words, she knew she would suffer hardships from this operation.

“Still failure on that matter is unacceptable.”

“Ok ... ... Well... Huh!”

“What's wrong?”

“A small ship just left from Amane's apartment, Seina is on it. Ms. Neiju and Karen have confirmed it. He's going after Fuku.”

“Seina ... ... you don't have to work so hard right now!” Seto, was shocked. A call came in.

[.....]

The communication was instantaneous, but the color of Seto's face changed. “... What's that about Fuku-chan?”

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On Seniwa's main planet, Washu was standing surrounded by huge snow mist trees. As the petals danced and scattered, a monument of black crystal about 2 meters tall was floating in front of her eyes. In it, Mikumo's body was sealed, but the insides couldn't be seen.

“... ... I see, that sounds a bit inconvenient Naja.”

”In terms of technology, Tarrant poses a considerable threat to the Academy, so I didn't think it will end up anywhere but in the hands of another philosopher. I think we both know who the most likely candidate they would get to handle it is ... and I'm sorry. It seems that is so, so be wary.”

“The Da Ruma Guild's extinction was so sudden that nobody noticed him disappearing in post processing ... Or maybe it was because of Seina's probability bias ... Well, I have Ryo-Ohki with me to hold the fort down here, so don't worry about me. But I couldn't bear it if something were to happen to Fuku,” said Washu.

“I'll make sure she is saved. See ya.” Seto ended communications, Washu took a deep breath.

“... ... Uhuhuh. Anyway, it's Dr. Clay ... ... It's not a bad idea to bring another philosopher in to examine her.”

“Oh, were you busy?” A voice called from the behind her, Washu slowly turned around, there was a young man with the nurse that was in love with Mikumo.

“Huh, aren't you supposed to be somewhere else?” Washu's voice contained a mild anger. And it was directed to the young man.

× × ×

A few minutes after following the small ship carrying Fuku, the ship that Seina took came into satellite orbit of the Academy's main planet.

“Master, you shouldn't jump after them!”

“Why, because of orders from the GP?”

“You'd be disrupting a military exercise.”

“We have to stop them! They kidnapped Fuku and hit Karen!”

“No matter how unjustifiable, orders are orders.”

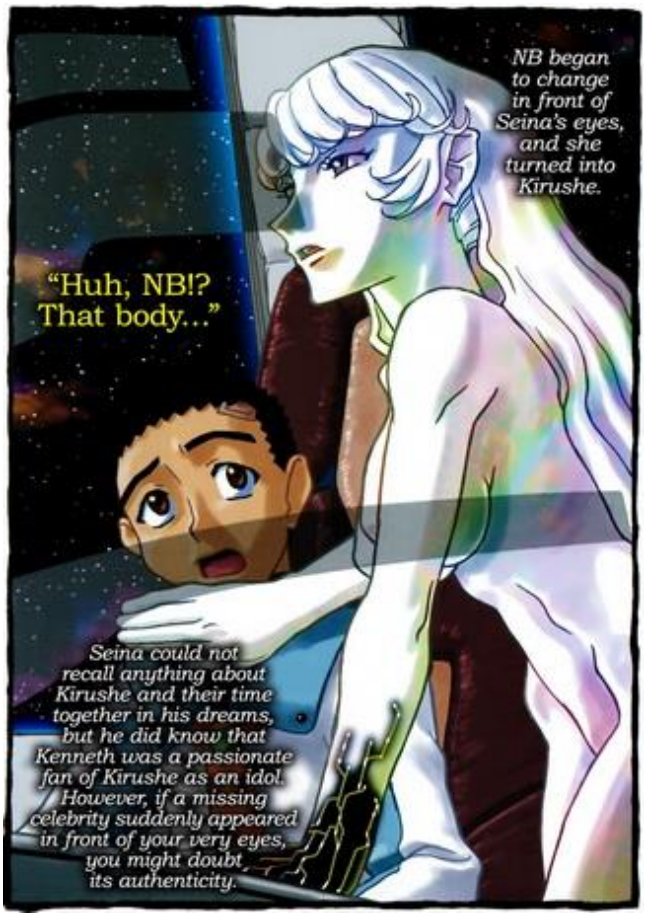
”Their orders are pointless!” Seina replied immediately.

“Well, you might get fired from the GP, or be arrested if you take actions against that ship.”

“What!? ... ... There's no use thinking about that! If I stop tracking them now, I might never see Fuku again!” For a moment, Seina wore an expression of anguish but after a bit he decided to ignore NB's warning.

“If you understand the risks and want to go after her I can take the brunt of the blame and shield you from the worst of it.”

“What? What are you talking about? You're my NB, I'll still be held responsible...!”


NB began to change in front of Seina's eyes, and she turned into Kirushe.
“Huh, NB!? That body...”
Seina could not recall anything about Kirushe and their time together in his dreams, but he did know that Kenneth was a passionate fan of Kirushe as an idol. However, if a missing celebrity suddenly appeared in front of your very eyes, you might doubt its authenticity.

NB began to change in front of Seina's eyes and turned into Kirche.

“Huh, NB!? That body is ... ...”

He couldn't recall anything about meeting Kirche and spending time with her in his dreams, but Kenneth was an enthusiastic fan of hers. So, he knew her as an Idol. However, if a missing celebrity suddenly appeared in front of your very eyes you might doubt their authenticity.

“... ... Well, are you going to go after her?” The aura of woman in front of his eyes was enough to convince him that she was real, and he was embarrassed by her undressed appearance.

“I'll explain afterward. We have to chase them now!”

“Oh! That's right! ... But they did a short distance jump, I can't predict where they went. I can only guess.”

If you couldn't predict the jump destination, you needed to detect where the opponent jumped out at and then jump to it. Of course, that distance could be too great. It would be over if it required a long distance jump.

“… Can we attack?”

“Only to stop the target, but that is a far more serious crime then an order violation. We don't want to risk killing someone or worse, the possibility of hurting Fuku.”

(... ... how can we go up against a ship like that?)

“It's okay, Seina, this ship is Airi-sama's ... ... It's the ship of a philosopher.” Kirche smiled nicely like she read Seina's thoughts.

“Huh?”

“The ship has jumped out, we identified the position! Time to jump!”

Airi's small ship immediately identified the enemy's position and shifted to super spatial navigation.

“Oh, this is!! The Top Secret super space!?”

* * * **Translators’ note: The one only Juraian ships are supposed to know about. * * ***

Seina recognized it, and as soon as he did, they jumped back out to normal space. The target ship was still in front of them. Without hesitation, Kirche shot at the power generators of the target ship.

“Great aim… …” Her aim was comparable to Amane's.

They hit it with a tractor beam and the target ship was immobilized.

“Seina Yamada. Your actions are a serious violation of orders.” Finally, the other party opened the communication line with voice only.

“I would like you to return Fuku immediately.”

“This is the decision of the Galactic Federation.”

“Return Fuku ... ...!”

“The delivery should have only been the hull of Kamidake, and I can't help but ask you what kind of legitimacy there is in the act of attacking civilians and depriving them of their property. We demand you transfer her back to the GP.”

“Is there an order to withdraw?”

“This is an emergency measure, Fuku has human rights. She is a presence with an astral, the protection of her rights takes precedence.”

“Chh! ... You'll regret this.” The other's party's words proved illegal intent. However...

“Somethings jumping out!” Kirche shouted, a large scale army ship jumped out at a close distance which caused intense shaking.

“Chh!” Seina quickly cut the tractor beam.

“Avoid them!”

“Ah!”

“Oh!?”

Kirche backed off, a moment later a beam of high power passed through where Seina's ship would have gone if they hadn't stopped.

“Damn it!” Fuku and the evidence to prove the illegality of her capture were on that ship and they were getting away. Without it, all Seina had was evidence of himself violating orders. However, the large ship looked like it could easily take out the one Seina was on.

“Seina, wait a minute!” Kirche did something that made the ship quickly approach the small ship and bypass the large ship.

“huh!?”

The inertial control couldn't catch up, intense G force attacked their bodies. Despite its size, the small ship approached while emitting a beam with a fairly powerful output, but as expected it was impossible for them to penetrate the armor or shields of the heavy armored war ships.

“Ah!!”

Individual bullets launched from the small ship and split in to hair like pinpoints of energy shield and together they managed to weaken the shields enough to barely pass though, it made a bright red spot on the outer armor of the enemy battleship. The enemy ship quickly became transparent and invisible.

“They’re withdrawing! Emergency jump!”

The small ship jumped out to a point several light years away from the warship after only a few seconds using a super spatial jump.

“Kirche, those bullets were they ... ...”

“Yes, those obnoxious ones that hit the Kamidake 1.”

“How do you know about those... ...?”

“Because I've seen everything as NB,” Kirche smiled at him.

“Oh, I see ... ... that makes sense.”

Acting as NB, she would have seen everything going on aboard the Kamidake. It was no wonder that Kirche had so much skill in ship to ship combat.

“But such a large ship, are the paint bullets going to be effective ...?”

“I mainly hit them with it for the marker function, so that way we can follow where they go.”

“Does that mean ... ... Can we still follow that ship?”

“Yes, it's impossible to follow them with no long distance hyperspace navigation drive, but once they get where they're going we can make a series of normal long distance jumps. We should have about a week of supplies on board, but if you are concerned about safety we can go back to Amane's and consult with Kiriko.”

“... I don't think we can, something is obviously wrong ... ... I have a bad feeling about going back.”

“How about notifying the people of the earth about Fuku-chan? There's nothing preventing it, Washu-sama, Tenchi-san, and Ryo-Ohki-chan would make for powerful backup.”

“If these actions are the will of the Galactic Federation, as you've said, there's the danger of putting Tenchi-senpai in a bad position in the current situation without clear evidence. So first of all, I'm going to see where the other party goes.”

“Okay, then please know I'm here to serve you.”

“I know but, uhm, well ... ...”

“oh ... I … uhm...” Kirche returned to her NB form.

* * * **Translators’ note: She's naked. * * ***

“So, what will we do if we go on a long trip without alternating personnel, or do we go back and get the others? We have to decide quickly.”

“I know ... ... Let's just go! We have to help Fuku!” Seina said without hesitation. Even with the stigma of rebellion on him, he had more to regret if he lost Fuku. Miki disappeared out of reach, but Fuku was right in front of him. It was still possible to reach for her.

“We've received data from the marker! We've set a course to jump!”

“Alright then let's jump!

“Okay!”

After a moment Seina's small ships jumped after its goal.

* * * **Translators’ note: This ends around the 11:58 mark in episode 23 of the anime. * * ***

Afterword: Concluding Theater 9

“On that day, Imuim was rented out. ..... Are you sure about that?”

After the battle with the Big Da Ruma, Seina returned to school after a long absence and promptly went on a study trip. During his free time before lights out, Seina was pulled into an interview moderated by Kenneth and broadcast to all his classmates. He didn't know how it leaked out, but the questions were about Seina's alleged trip to “Imuim”.

“..... Yes.”

Fortunately, the questions were not in the form of an interview, but rather a summary of the questions posed by the classmates beforehand, which Kenneth read out loud. Otherwise, they might run out of time. There wasn’t as much freedom as in the dorm.

“You mean you stayed on the main island of Imuim?”

“Yes, that’s right.”

“Yikes! I heard that there was only one accommodation on the main island of Imuim, which means you slept with Masaki-sensei and the others!”

Kenneth's breathing started to get a little ragged.

“I slept somewhere else.”

“You mean you were camping out in the ... ... field, is that right?”

“Yeah, well. It was warm at night, and there were no strange insects or dangerous animals.” Seina stayed in a place that was a secret only for those who had found it. He couldn't talk about it.

“How long did you stay in Imuim?”

“Two weeks.”

“And what was everyone wearing during that time?”

“Bathing suits except for the first day.”

“Damn! Is that true? Do you have any pictures or videos to prove it?”

Now we're getting close to the heart of the matter. In other words, this gathering is Seina's alleged drunken party.

“... ... There are private photos, so I can't show them here. I didn't take them, so I need permission to access them ... ... Oh! You can see the pictures of the fish I caught, it's a record for Imuim.”

“We don't want that! The viewers want to see swimsuit pictures of Masaki-sensei and the others! And don't tell me you don't have some secretly taken ones! You've got a very powerful NB!”

“He wasn’t allowed in, we left it on the Imuim satellite.” Seina said, a little resentful at being denied a picture of the fish he wanted to show off.

“What? Whoa, whoa, whoa! Why would you waste something like that?”

Naturally, this was to prevent Kenneth and the others from doing what they were expecting to do.

“They have a policy of bringing in as little civilization as possible, you know. We didn't need him.”

Having gotten used to living in space, Seina had stopped taking NB around as much earlier. Even on this study trip, the lead teacher was keeping it as an unnecessary personal item.

“You had a golden opportunity there at ... ...! You! Do you have any idea how lucky you were to be there?”

“Kenneth. Don't get sidetracked, go on, go on. We're running out of time.” Rajau, who had remained silent, warned in a whisper.

“... ... Excuse me. Now for my next question, I heard that Imuim has a special ingredient in its water and air that has such an effervescent effect that many people who stay for long periods of time spend the entire day completely naked?”

“That's news to me ... ... At least they were in a bathing suits in front of me. I don't know about the inside of the lodgings, though.”

“So, you never went into the lodgings?”

“Only when we had a party on the last day?”

“Pa, party? What did they wear to that party?”

“They wore dresses. ... ... You know, Kiriko ... ... Masaki-sensei said that the facilities with the name Imuim on other planets are just exaggerated images, and they are different from the actual Imuim. Some of them may offer such events for adults who come to play with other adults, but they usually bring children, and I'm underage, so I don't do what Kenneth and the others expect me to do.”

“Damn ... ..., that's ridiculous! Our dreams are ... ...”

“Now wake up!” Seina said with a cold stare.

“No! I don't believe you! It's impossible that nothing happened in the isolation of Imuim with Masaki-sensei and the others! It's almost as unbelievable as the fact that I was dying of hunger and didn't touch the food in front of me!”

“If it was just the two of us, I don't know what I'd do. In this situation where Seto-sama and the others were also there... ...”

“!? ... ... What did you just say?” Kenneth, who was half crying, glared at Seina.

“Huh?”

“Didn't you just say there was someone else?”

“... ... Oh, Seto-sama and the others were there, too... ...”

“Se, Seto-sama is ..... the Demon Princess of Jurai?”

“What other Seto-sama are you talking about? Imuim is Jurai's retreat and of course we can't have a private party unless Seto-sama invites us, right? We met on the first day, and we were together until the last day.”

“... ... ... and this concludes Seina's interview with Imuim's alleged drunkard clarification.”

“What? Eh?”

Seina had gotten used to it, but to the average person, the “Demon Princess of Jurai” was an object of awe, and it was unthinkable to make out with a woman while in the company of Seto. To put it another way, it would be like being in a cage with a starving man-eating tiger. In such an extremely tense situation, he could not even think about it, let alone afford to do anything offensive. In fact, Kenneth and his friends would have been so tense all the time that they would not have been able to even play normally. Well, it's easy to understand if you think of it as being under the supervision of parents and teachers.

“Thank you all for your attention.”

Thus, Seina's suspicions of Imuim drunkenness were cleared.